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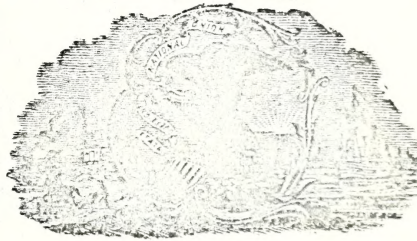
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VOLUME IV

APRIL, 1911, TO JANUARY, 1912



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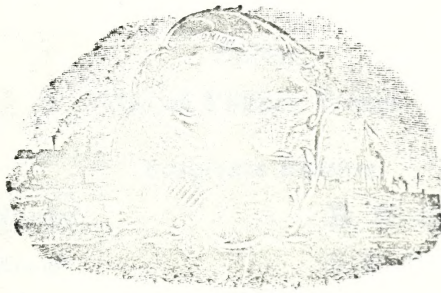
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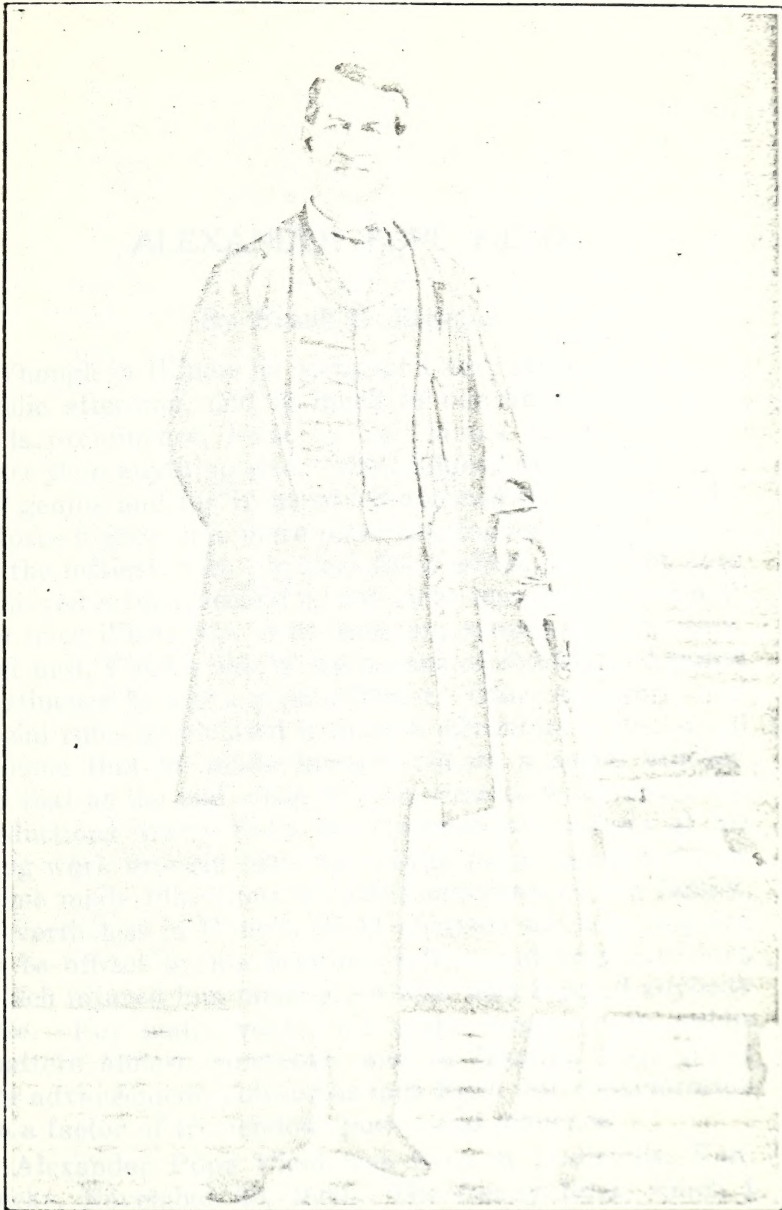




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ALEXANDER POPE FIELD.



## ALEXANDER POPE FIELD.

By Frank E. Stevens.

Though in Illinois he occupied a very large measure of public attention, and in much of our history his name finds prominence, Field in his Illinois life represented more than anything else, "what might have been." Had his genius and his tremendous abilities been directed by a force higher than mere place hunting and that too none of the loftiest, with physical force added, he might have achieved a fame second to not more than half a dozen of our most illustrious, or at least, our strongest characters. But first, Field's habits<sup>1</sup> were none of the best. Against abstinency he was a rank offender. Other scriptural and social rules he violated with such effrontery to the social scheme that he made himself almost a social outcast. So that at the end when it came time to write down the deductions drawn from the equation, the effects of his long work brought little real lustre to his name and to a name made illustrious by other members of the family. Nevertheless in Illinois, Field occupied too large a place to be off-set by his personal follies and transgressions which injured him much more than they injured anybody else. For many years, his name appeared in public matters almost constantly and in framing their plans for advancement, politicians took Field into consideration as a factor of tremendous power and influence.

Alexander Pope Field was born in Louisville, Kentucky, November 30, 1800. The family bible, which I

<sup>1</sup> His faults, grave as they were, might not have held him down, necessarily. Others drank as heavily, notably Douglas. It was a drinking age. But Field, during his long Illinois residence, permitted himself to mire in moral quicksands.





was permitted to examine, states that he died on the 19th day of August, 1876, aged 75 years, 8 months and 19 days. If leap years affect the computation, then to that extent, I am wrong. His early life we cannot follow at all closely. He was a son of the noted and aristocratic Pope family, and as such must have been offered the very highest advantages<sup>2</sup>. That he attended Transylvania, is asserted by those who knew the family and him to some extent while young. Prior to the year 1818, however, certainty can have little acquaintance with this sketch.

A suspicion is left behind that he was not a diligent student and that is true probably. But true or not true, when at about the time of the adoption of the first state constitution in 1818, he came with his uncle, Judge Nathaniel Pope<sup>3</sup>, who had been visiting Kentucky, he possessed a commanding appearance, an easy flow of language, an engaging manner, brilliant conversational powers and he possessed a ready command of the political history of his country which no other person in the new state possessed. To add to his ability to make himself likable, he had a fine voice for singing, and many there were who insisted that it had been highly cultivated. He spoke after the manner of the man who knew much; who had learned it without much effort and what he stated, he seemed sure of. He sprung into instant favor and like every other young person of good intellectual parts, he possessed political ambitions.

At the time of his arrival and for a considerable time thereafter, Jonesboro, in the county of Union, was one of the most prominent places in the State, and to Jonesboro Field went to establish himself. The prestige given him by reason of his relationship with Nathaniel Pope, who as delegate to Congress secured the admission of

<sup>2</sup> From his constant and accurate quotations in argument, if he had not studied deeply, his must have been an abnormal memory.

<sup>3</sup> Gov. John Pope, of Arkansas, was another uncle.





Illinois, brought business to the young man immediately. At first he dealt in government lands. From the fact that his name as a lawyer does not appear upon the roster as an admitted practitioner until some years later\*, the line of business pursued by him was obscured until a recent date, when it was discovered that he was a land speculator and practiced in the lower courts where no license was required.

Almost immediately after reaching his majority, we find him a candidate for office and he was elected to the lower house of the Third General Assembly, which convened at Vandalia, December 2, 1822, and adjourned February 19, 1823, and which as an Assembly, disgraced itself more than any dozen assemblies which have followed it, with the possible exception of the one which revolutionized the Supreme Court and turned this same Field out of office thereby. For that disgrace Field can not be exempted. His was the commanding genius and influence which concocted the plot and pushed through the legislature the resolution which sought by a contemplated amendment to the constitution, to saddle slavery onto the State.

In the senate the pro-slavery forces had the required two-thirds vote to put through any pro-slavery measure and into the senate the resolution providing for the constitutional convention to repeal the slavery inhibition, was introduced. It was opposed of course. Mr. Kinkade took the floor and in attempting to show that its object was to permit slavery in the State, he was interrupted violently and for the noise of others he was called to order and compelled to take his seat. The chair ruled him out of order and discussion was denied him and the other anti-slavery senators.

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\*The roll of attorneys in the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court shows that Field was licensed in October, 1825 and enrolled June 1, 1827.



When the conspiracy was conceived, it was thought that the house lacked two votes of the necessary two-thirds needed to pass it. Thereupon there was begun a sort of sparring for points in the hope that some kind of a trade or fortuity might come to the surface which would suggest ways to secure the needed two votes. One conception was to the effect that an advantage might be secured by passing a convention resolution by a joint vote of both houses. Pursuant to it, the senate passed such a resolution in effect declaring that if two-thirds of all the members in both houses should recommend the people to vote for or against a constitutional convention, it would answer the formalities of the Constitution. For a test, Field introduced a similar resolution in the house, but it was rejected. The senate then passed the regular convention resolution and sent it over to the house. For purposes of a blind, the pro-slavery people permitted it to lie on the table, while another and similar resolution was introduced into the house. The latter received 22 votes, or just two short of the needed two-thirds. Nicholas Hansen of Pike, voted for it, a member named McFetridge voted against it and Rattan also voted against it for purposes of moving a reconsideration, as has been said. Thus with Rattan's vote, but one vote was needed and that vote the slavery people sought from McFetridge by promises to remove the county seat from Vienna to Bloomfield; promises which never were kept. When that vote had been secured, the slavery people had secured from Rattan's county, a request that he vote for the resolution and he thereupon announced his determination to do so. Beyond doubt the slumbering senate resolution might now be taken from the table and passed! On February 11th, it was taken from the table and put upon its passage. But a withering surprise greeted the pro-slavery forces; Hansen who had voted for the other resolution, now voted against the senate resolution and it was lost by one vote. The moment was







critical and rather stormy. Daimwood, a member who voted with the losing side, moved to reconsider. The speaker ruled the motion out of order of course and in the appeal taken to the whole house, he was sustained.

In the early part of the session, Hansen's right to his seat was contested by a man named Shaw, but he had been seated unanimously, Field voting to seat him. When, however, Hansen voted against the resolution, Field's anger knew no bounds and through his instrumentality, by securing a reconsideration of the action which seated Hansen, Hansen was unseated and Shaw was sent for and seated and voted with the pro-slavery forces thereafter. Notwithstanding the fact that the house was governed by Jefferson's Manual, rule 20 of which provided: "Nor shall any motion for reconsideration be in order unless made on the same day on which the vote was taken or within the next two days of the actual session, etc," the above result was obtained and still more disgraceful, the vote which sustained the Speaker's ruling on the Daimwood motion, was reconsidered and overturned; the Daimwood motion was declared in order and by Shaw's one vote, the convention resolution was passed by the house by the desired two-thirds vote.

The tactics of Field toward the gallant band which fought his measure and his vicious means for carrying it, were those of the blackguard. He, with others abused and villified. He made threats and by means as revolutionary as those which at last deprived him of office, he carried the convention resolution through the house. No other measure but one was ever pushed through an Illinois Assembly under such questionable influences and that exception was the one just mentioned which removed him from the office of Secretary of State. In the latter case he but collided with the same force that controlled the Third General Assembly.



On February 15, 1823, a meeting of the prominent pro-slavery people who had gathered at the capital, was presided over by Col. Thomas Cox, then of Springfield, at which a committee was appointed to draft resolutions and an address which were to be presented to the people in justification of their measure and to advocate the repeal of the slavery inhibition found in the constitution of 1818. Field was made a member of that committee and he it was who prepared them. At a subsequent meeting held at the same place, February 17, 1823, the committee reported their resolutions and the address and then adjourned.

The reputation gained in that memorable legislative battle pushed Field to the front of the pro-slavery forces in the State and he was sent to the firing line of the dominant party in the long and fierce fight which followed, the result of which was his election in 1824 as one of the three presidential electors of the State.

The campaign was a long and furious one, but under the powerful efforts of Hooper Warren, Morris Birkbeck, John Mason Peck, Governor Edward Coles, and others, the resolution was snowed under by a substantial majority<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> Vote; for, 4,972; against, 6,640.

#### THE "CONVENTION" AGITATION.

The Illinois Intelligencer denounced the legislature for playing fast and loose with the Pike county men, which brought out a threat of legislative action and mob menace. On February 17, 1823, Field introduced the following resolution: "That the editors of the Illinois Intelligencer be requested forthwith to inform this house who is the author of a piece which appeared in their last paper, signed A. B. and which charges the legislature with corruption and dishonesty." Upon the appearance of the editorial a mob gathered before the building, but no further act of violence followed.

Historians have urged that the effort to secure a convention was not considered until the legislature met. In Union and Jackson counties the subject was agitated before election, and in February, 1822, at a meeting held at Jonesboro, Field introduced a resolution proposing an effort to elect members of the legislature who would recommend a convention for altering and amending the constitution. It was an anti-election issue.





The reason for his non-appearance in the Fourth General Assembly was because of his nomination as presidential elector and the necessity for a vast amount of work which that and the resolution campaigns demanded of him as leader. However, he was elected to the Fifth and Sixth General Assemblies, serving through his terms without a single event worthy special mention. With the final adjournment of the last named Assembly, his legislative services ceased for all time. For measures of any practical value to his State or relief for the people you will examine in vain the house journals. The first worthy measure bearing the impress of his name can not be found.

During that period, however, Field had been admitted to the bar formally and had advanced with rapid strides to the front of his profession. He attracted the attention of Governor Edwards, who had watched his course for some time, and when the opportunity presented itself, he appointed him Secretary of State, in 1828, which proved to be a sort of political shelf whereon he rested until in the year 1840 he was ousted to make room for Stephen A. Douglas, the "Little Giant."

On January 1, 1829, Field's commission as Secretary of State was issued and on January 23, 1829, he was sworn into office.

The office was profitable for the times and that influence might have had much to do with his long tenure. Moreover it did not interfere with his law practice, which took him all over the State and kept him from his office most of the time. His attachment for his practice was so strong that he retained his residence in Jonesboro for a considerable period and followed the circuit with tremendous success. Very soon he took a vacation down the river, ostensibly for his health, but more than likely for the purpose of securing something better from his uncle, Governor Pope, of Arkansas. The trip consumed considerable time and increased certain criticisms. His



absences continued for such long intervals that after awhile it created considerable adverse comment by his enemies, some of whom accused him of farming out his office. Remarks of that nature became so frequent and so forceful that Governor Edwards found it necessary to call attention to them and to remonstrate mildly<sup>6</sup>.

The appointment must have gratified Field immensely because in a letter addressed to Governor Edwards dated February 5th, 1829, he says, after congratulating the Governor upon his message: "All my friends are highly delighted at my appointment." On March 20, 1830, the protest had become so loud from the Governor that Field, who then was in Louisville for the benefit of his health as he stated, found himself compelled to promise that so soon as he was well enough to return, he would discipline his clerk, Mr. Posey, whose conduct seems to have been criticised and may have superinduced the criticism. In September he complains again of the state of his health, but no allusion is made to his continued absence from his office. On September 24th, however, he writes from Jonesboro in a manner which indicates that he had been impressed by the Governor on the 16th in a manner so forceful that he had concluded to neglect his duties no longer. Said he: "I do assure you that if it be in my power I will be in Vandalia by the 4th or 5th of October. Our courts have commenced, and I am necessarily compelled to attend to them. However, if I can, I will go to Vandalia and remain there a few days and return to our court which commences on the 18th of

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<sup>6</sup> June 1, 1829, Hooper Warren, another sort of protégé of Gov. Edwards, who was looking for preferment, wrote from Galena to the Governor: "An occurrence has lately taken place here since my arrival which may lead to a vacancy that might prove still more to my advantage than to take an appointment in either of those places. Col. Field has let his office for one year to Mr. Ford, and has gone down the river with his family. There are various rumors respecting his departure—some think he will return in a few weeks, others that he will never come back again. I have heard it suggested that he has gone to Arkansas to receive some appointment under Gov. Pope."





October. You say that my continuance in office depends upon my future attention to business. I hope the business has been conducted well, and will in future be strictly attended to by myself or competent clerk. Mr. Posey has informed me that the office is in first rate order, and that himself and you have harmonized well." In February, 1831, we find him still domiciled at Jonesboro, from which point he writes Governor Edwards to the effect that he has been urged strongly to become a candidate for Congress in opposition to Duncan. Soon thereafter he must have removed to Vandalia, because in 1832, and at most times after the Black Hawk War, he writes from Vandalia as though it were his permanent domicile. Nevertheless, from his correspondence, we find him on the move; first at Kaskaskia, then across the State at Shawneetown, then again at Galena. Of course much of his traveling was compelled by the necessities of his very large law practice which took him over the State pretty generally. At the same time, in that correspondence with Governor Edwards, he alludes to work he is doing in the interests of the Governor in a political way.

When the Black Hawk War broke out, Field seems to have been located at Vandalia. In the first call for troops he did not respond, nor do we find him among those who enlisted in the emergency companies, but we do find him on the staff of General Henry, as Brigade Inspector. On July 9, 1832, feeling that further pursuit of the Indians was impossible and a battle improbable, Field, with Gov. Reynolds, Judge Breese and others, left the army at Lake Koshkonong and returned home.

The only reference we find to his services in that outbreak, is on July 24th, 1832, when in writing to Governor Edwards he urges that candidate of the necessity for being at work in the southern part of the district. At the same time he volunteers to go if Edwards will furnish the expense money. "If I had the means, but my money is entirely exhausted, I would go to Franklin, Pope,





Johnson, etc., and address the people for you, and if you could furnish it to me, I would start immediately. My war trip has drained me." So he writes. By the 30th Candidate Edwards must have sent the money, because we find Field writing that although unwell he will start with one of his friends immediately to Franklin, Gallatin and Pope, "where I am in hopes I can meet Breese and measure strength with him on the stump."

Confidential relations existed between him and Governor Edwards. In but one instance do we find Field antagonizing an Edwards measure. In that exception he did not hesitate to criticize the position taken by Edwards on the land question then uppermost in the public mind. At Equality, Field delivered a long speech filled with objections to the Edwards notion. It must have been a speech of unusual interest and of ability, because William J. Gatewood, one of the ablest lawyers of the times, found it expedient to listen to it and then write Edwards a letter about it. Just why Field should antagonize Edwards is not comprehensible from this distance because not long before that time, he congratulated

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Field's devotion to Edwards dated back of the appointment as Secretary of State and continued until the latter died. Afterwards in 1829 when Edwards desired to return to the Senate, Field wrote from Jonesboro, November 8, as follows: "Things are going on better than you could have supposed. We have had meetings in Union, Johnson, Pope and intend having one in this county, and I will assure you Kinney will not get one-third of the votes in those counties and you may rest assured that things are going on better in this quarter than ever. Reynolds is with us and promises all you can desire in relation to your future movements."

On the 26th of the same month, Field wrote predicting the election of Edwards men to the legislature from his district and they were elected. On Sept. 17, 1830, Field wrote again a loyal letter, adding that Kane "has been with us (Jonesboro) for a day electioneering with all his originality."

Another letter touching this same campaign has just come to hand. It is dated, Jonesboro, Feb. 5, 1829: "If you feel a disposition again to embark in public life for the benefit and security of your friends, no pains shall be spared on my part to render such an effort successful. I have no doubt, should you desire it, your election to the Senate of the U. S., by the next legislature can be rendered perfectly secure; if your friends act with energy and circumspection we have nothing to fear."



lated Edwards upon his message affecting the very question. But his opposition made no difference with the existing friendship between the two men. While Edwards was inclined always to a certain degree of haughtiness, Field never incurred the visitation of it.

His ambition to run for Congress has been mentioned. Aside from minor county offices at an early date and the legislature, we do not find that Field was a candidate before the people of Illinois except in one instance. He seemed to prefer the office of lieutenant for others who sought votes, and his office of Secretary of State. The lone exception was his candidacy for Congress. In 1831 he was a candidate. In referring to a chance meeting with Breese at Lebanon, during the campaign, he said: "A friend who I was fortunate enough to find at the tavern, informed me that the people had collected in a grove to hear Breese speak. I immediately went down, engaged him again, and I am confident I never achieved a more signal victory in my life in a speech before the people." Before opening up his campaign, he laid the case before Edwards and offered to support him vigorously should he run. "If I do not run, Dunn certainly will. And I do think my prospect of success much more encouraging than his. But I wish it distinctly understood that if you have the most distant idea of running, I will at once abandon all such notions. Toward you I have the greatest friendship and would under no circumstances whatever do anything that would have the most remote tendency to injure your future prospect. But if you are determined not to offer at this election, I think my friends would do much better by taking me up, running me in preference to Dunn."

Field entered the contest and as we have seen, he engaged Breese at Lebanon. Something, however, must have happened, because on July 30th, we find him acknowledging the receipt of money which he proposed to use in paying his expenses in pushing Edwards' campaign





for the same office. At all events, Duncan got the office and Field could not have gone very far into the campaign on his own account, nor Edwards either.

In 1822-23-24 Field was a rabid pro-slavery man, affiliating with that political faction. In the year 1828 we find something like the effects of a revolution in his politics. In that year, as a delegate from Union county, he attended at Kaskaskia, a democratic convention, at which he was found to be just as rabid for Jackson for president, which included affiliation with many who had fought him and slavery so bitterly. That convention was held on Monday, June 9, 1828. After some preliminary work a committee of seven was appointed on motion of Field, to draft resolutions "expressive of the sense of the convention," and the chair appointed Field, Middlecoff, Goforth, Usher, Young, Butcher and Kuykendall, said committee<sup>s</sup>. The first resolution declared a "total want of confidence in the political integrity and principles of John Quincy Adams," but that we have "unshaken confidence in the integrity, firmness, patriotism and ability of General Jackson." The fourth resolution endorsed the candidacy of Richard M. Young for the United States Senate.

In that convention Field rose and in a most convincing manner gave the reasons of the committee for their resolutions which contained many principles differing from those he advocated in 1823.

During Edwards' administration, while Secretary of State, he apostatized and became a Whig; Reynolds, a democrat, continued him four years, and when Duncan became a Whig, that action assured him of an unmolested tenure of his office for four years more.

Field at all times contended that as an office holder he was immune from political influence under the constitution, and a later opinion of the Supreme court sus-

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<sup>s</sup> See Life of Adam W. Snyder, by Dr. J. F. Snyder, a very rare book.



tained that contention. So early as September 17, 1830, when in writing Edwards he stated: "I am anxious to know whether Reynolds is willing to continue me as Secretary. I am confident that he has no power to appoint any person without my resigning. I believe the principle has been settled in the case of Forquer\*, that the office is not at the pleasure of the Governor. Let me hear from you."

Reynolds did adopt that construction, and as stated, so did Duncan. But when Carlin came into office with his different political views and his enmity for all things which had to do with the Duncan administration, he proceeded to encompass the downfall of Field by removing him summarily. He "removed" him on paper and appointed John A. McClernand. Field declined to be removed. McClernand brought quo warranto proceedings against Field to try his right to the office and in that fight very many pretty maneuvers were made by both sides. The Supreme court, which contained a majority of Whigs, found in favor of the Field contention that the Governor could not remove; that "life or good behavior" was the tenure. In that case, Field was his own principal counsel and it has been said that his arguments were masterpieces of logic and English.

At that decision the democrats over the state were wrought into a high state of indignation and plans were laid at once to overturn it. An enlargement of the court and an enlargement of their duties was put into a bill over which a fight followed very like the one of 1823. One vote, the one needed to pass it through the house, was secured by promises of appointing to the office of clerk of the new body, E. M. Peck, a hard worker for the accomplishment of Field's downfall. The vote was supplied, the man was appointed and on the record we find

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\* This same George Forquer upon one occasion wrote to Gov. Edwards: "Shall I fight for Lockwood, Wilson, Field, Caverly, Pugh, etc., not one of whom has even the germs of a statesman or politician in him?" But Forquer's criticism should not be noticed.





this legend in the executive record: "Governor Carlin this day nominated to the Senate, Stephen A. Douglas to be Secretary of State. The Senate confirmed said nomination and Stephen A. Douglas was commissioned, qualified, and entered upon the duties of his office." Referring to the Senate Journal of November 30, 1840, Douglas' appointment came up for confirmation; a Senator objected on the ground that the Governor had no authority to make such an appointment except in the case of vacancy, and that the Senate had no knowledge of the existence of any such vacancy. The Douglas appointment, however, was confirmed on that day. To have tried another time to question the effectuality of quo warranto proceedings, would have been useless, because the new Supreme Court had been so framed as to preclude all possibility of holding that Field might continue. The removal ended Field's political career in Illinois and with it went Field himself, to other parts.

It does seem strange that with his transcendent ability and his great reputation as a lawyer, he should prefer small offices and those too in a country just opening up to settlement like the then territory of Wisconsin. But so it was, so soon as Field found himself deprived of office in Illinois, he directed his energies toward securing another. On the election of General Harrison, a Whig, he was appointed in 1841, Secretary of the territory of Wisconsin. This office he filled until the Whigs lost control of the government. While in Wisconsin, his administration was colorless and his personality submerged. His career was mediocre and his office brought him nothing but troubles.

When he accepted the office, the territory of Wisconsin was almost without laws. The code was crude and most of its provisions susceptible of various constructions. Wherefore when Field's successor got himself well established in office he made it his business to make Field as uncomfortable and his administration as odious as



possible. Field was not a man to observe formalities to any great extent and in the management of his office he but used the ordinary forms of business with their precautions, taking receipts for moneys, signing vouchers and other papers and keeping his books with the neatness of the average careless man. He accounted for his official acts in final settlement and left supposedly with a clean page. Field was honest in his every business transaction, but later, by reason of some of his careless observances which did not fill the rules of red tape prescribed by a hostile administration at Washington, he was required to save his bondsmen by securing congressional action in making formal entries by legislation before allowing him and those bondsmen an acquittance of their obligations.<sup>10</sup>

Aside from this record, Field's life in Wisconsin is a blank and it is not at all remarkable that he should

<sup>10</sup> On December 7, 1853, a message from the House states, "They have passed a joint resolution for the relief of Alexander P. Field, late Secretary of Wisconsin Territory, and sureties, in which they request the concurrence of the Senate." Over in the Senate this resolution (H. R. 1), was read and considered and sent back to the House for its concurrence on a slight amendment, which was done, and later the Senate passed it.

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officers of the Treasury Department be authorized and directed to settle the accounts of Alexander P. Field, late Secretary of Wisconsin Territory, upon principles of equity and justice; *Provided*, That no credit shall be allowed the said Field in said settlement under this resolution except such of the following items numbering from one to twelve, inclusive, claimed by said Field, as the said accounting officers may determine in equity and justice should be allowed.

Item No. 1. W. W. Wyman, payment on bond not yet surrendered, four hundred and thirty-seven dollars (\$437.00.)

Item No. 2. C. C. Shales, payment on bond not yet surrendered, one thousand and seventy-five dollars (\$1,075.00.)

Item No. 3. Over payment to Josiah A. Noonan for printing, one hundred dollars and forty-one cents (\$100.41.)

Item No. 4. Over payment to John Catlin, one hundred and seven dollars (\$107.00.)

Item No. 5. George I Coates' bond, wanting Gridley's endorsement, one hundred dollars (\$100.00.)

Item No. 6. E. Singerland's bond, wanting J. Kneeland's endorsement, one hundred dollars (\$100.00.)

Item No. 7. James Sullivan's bond, wanting his own endorsement,





turn away for a more inviting field. About the year 1847<sup>11</sup>, he left Wisconsin<sup>12</sup> and removed to St Louis to resume the practice of the law, and while not within the confines of the State of Illinois, Field once more found himself in the midst of old friends and great lawyers.

Field preferred criminal practice or actions sounding in damages. He cared nothing for chancery or law cases. Moreover, he preferred to defend the person charged with crime. Until he became Attorney General of Louisiana he seldom prosecuted, but when he did he was so realistically fierce that he has been known to frighten the spectators in the court room. In certain cases of the other sort, those sounding in damages, he preferred the side of the plaintiff and was known to secure the largest verdicts in the history of the legal profession during his times and in every noted case of those days, Field had a place at counsel's table in the court room. He controlled juries as he did audiences when stump speaking. He could convulse them with laughter or stir them to the point of riot, at pleasure. No man to this very day

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thirty-five dollars (\$35.00.)

Item No. 8. Appropriation of Legislative Assembly, for expenses of journey to Washington, procuring and transporting funds, etc., eight hundred dollars (\$800.00.)

Item No. 9. Payment to Barlow Shackelford, six dollars and sixty-five cents (\$6.65.)

Item No. 10. Appropriation of Legislative Assembly, February, eighteen hundred forty-three, for expense to Washington, procuring and transporting money for expenses of Legislative Assembly, eight hundred dollars (\$800.00.)

Item No. 11. Appropriation for office rent, stationery, etc., one hundred dollars (\$100.00.)

Item No. 12. Appropriation for postage, one hundred dollars (\$100.00.) Making in all, three thousand, seven hundred and sixty-one dollars and six cents (\$3,761.06.)

Approved, January 24, 1854.

<sup>11</sup> Gov. Charles P. Johnson, Vol. 9. Publications Illinois Historical Society, p. 41. In one of his obituary notices the statement was made that he remained in Wisconsin and assisted in the affairs of the new state. That is improbable because the state was not admitted until 1848. Moreover, Field was a Whig and the democrats permitted no whig to share in the good things of the new state. Others say he resigned after two years service and went to St. Louis in 1843.

<sup>12</sup> The year before his death, he paid a visit to old Wisconsin scenes



has possessed that power to the extent Field possessed it. He was very learned in the law. Precedents at the time of his life on the circuit were scarce. Books were hard to obtain. Most law was argued from principle and decisions were rendered by a very able bench from principle. Field knew well the basic structure upon which all law was founded. Moreover he made his arguments so plausible and he could bring out his points with a clearness well nigh unanswerable. Or, on the other hand, he could and more often than not he would, bully a witness into a state of mind in which that witness would be brought to admit that black was white in order to get away from Field. He could and did move juries which had been known to seek a place in the jury box in order to find against him. The State of Illinois never has produced a lawyer with greater power over a jury than Field wielded. One instance is cited by a lawyer whose opinion must be accepted, which details in graphic words the wonderful force and power of Field. Governor Charles P. Johnson<sup>13</sup> of St. Louis, himself a great criminal lawyer, listened to Field's argument. It was a case tried in Illinois while Field resided in St. Louis. The court room was crowded. The powerful physique of Field had more or less of influence always, but with his manipulation of it, it was unusually impressive in that trial and wielded more than its accustomed power as it swayed to and fro in flights of eloquence and vituperation by turns. Governor Johnson as a boy sat close by him spell bound. It was one of those arguments about which we read so often in stories which have immortalized their hero with a single speech. When, later he had removed to New Orleans and in a measure, dropped his habits of dissipation, he devoted all his energies to criminal law and became the leading criminal lawyer in the South. There he was the same Field matured. There was not the man in the state who could match him in eloquence.

<sup>13</sup> Vol 9, Publications Illinois Historical Society, p. 41.





It has been said that those speeches which touch the heart strongest in delivery, do not read well, have not the same eloquent throbs. In Field's case those few speeches which remain preserved, the man's simplicity uncovers the highest type of eloquence. They furnish reading which will rank as literature. His mannerisms had much to do with his impressiveness, but not all by any means. He was intensely magnetic. He did not care to talk to the galleries ever. Not one instance can be sighted when he descended to clap-trap to move a jury or an audience. His argument before the National House of Representatives, as we read it from this distance, was a plain statement, nevertheless it is a masterful and eloquent appeal and the press comments of the day gave it the highest praise, and it attracted universal attention and sympathy. Standing before his prejudged jury, Field seemed to cast his tremendous personality back over his entire career, blot it out by a supreme effort and then by a powerful effort stimulated himself for the creation of a new Field thereafter. E. B. Washburne heard that speech and publicly and privately he has characterized it as something bordering upon the verge of inspiration. It was the climax of his forensic efforts.

Field in his practice was successful. His victories outnumbered his defeats ten to one.

During the mania for internal improvement schemes in Illinois, Field was one of the very few public men who dared oppose them. He would not permit a constituency to change him, though in one respect he failed to grasp the possibilities of the subject. Upon one occasion when he appeared as one of the lobby so common and so powerful in those days before the legislatures, he ridiculed the proposed Illinois Central railroad scheme, which proposed to run a railroad from Cairo to Chicago. Said he in the speech<sup>14</sup> among other things: "Let me imagine

<sup>14</sup> U. S. Linder's Reminiscences, p. 205.



I see one of our plain Illinois suckers standing near the road as a train of cars comes dashing up from Cairo to Chicago. The sucker exclaims, 'Railroad, ahoy!' The conductor checks up his cars, when the sucker continues, 'where are you from and whither are you bound?' The conductor answers in a fine and feeble voice, 'From Kiro to Chicago.' 'What are you loaded with?' asks the sucker. The conductor answers, 'With hoop poles and bull frogs.' And so he carried his ridicule to a conclusion, expressing therein his belief to infatuation that there was not money enough in the whole world to build the roads mapped out by the agitators. The verdict amongst his contemporaries is unanimous that he was fearful and terrible as an antagonist in legal and political battles. His sarcasm was withering.

Upon a certain occasion he found himself opposed to a man who had switched in politics so many times that it became impossible to follow his party peregrinations. Field seemed forgetful of his own changes. Said he in a speech: "I don't know where to find him. He reminds me of the Kentucky negro whose master had set him to listing furrows for corn planting. 'Ned, your furrows are not straight,' objected the master. 'You should stand about four feet from your last furrow and take an object upon the opposite side of the field and drive straight for it. Now, put your plow in here, and drive for that cow which is on the opposite side of the field. Make straight for her tail and you will come out all right.' The master retired for an hour when he returned to see how Ned had obeyed his instructions. Ned was discovered far to the right, close to the cow. Being in a great passion when Ned was reached the master said to Ned, 'Didn't I tell you to plow straight furrows?' 'Yes, Massa,' answered Ned, 'but you dun tol' me t' make straight fo' dat cow's tail, an' fo' God I've followed the — hussy whahevah she's gone, an' if dese furrohs aint straight enuf for t' please you, I'm berry sorry.' Now,





the gentleman who has preceded me, has followed the loco loco cow wherever she has run and behold! what a political furrow he has made!"<sup>14</sup>

Field was six feet two inches tall, raw boned and at the time of his death weighed approximately 170 pounds. That weight he had maintained nearly all his adult life. His complexion was dark, almost swarthy. His eyes were gray and in excitement or anger they snapped fire like red hot coals. His features<sup>15</sup> were large and at the same time, attractive. His hair was a dark brown and never grew gray as he advanced in years. For perhaps five years before he died, he had stopped the use of liquor altogether. Though a hard drinker, his constitution had suffered nothing; neither was any shock experienced, apparently, at a somewhat sudden termination of his habit.

Field was a versatile man. He was a first class mixer; at the same time he could be a fine hater, though it never was his disposition to cherish grudges. His habits had been altogether too convivial. In the early days of Illinois when every other man almost, drank freely, he formed many warm friendships and when Lincoln desired to send money to New Orleans to secure the release of a negro boy who had been kidnapped<sup>16</sup>, after a fashion they had down there when free negroes came to the city, he sent the money to "his old friend" Field, who performed the service and the negro secured his freedom. As before stated, Field was scrupulously honest in money matters and incurred no debts. It was the custom upon the early Illinois circuit to be sociable and to form strong attachments regardless of any of the frailties of the man. Consequently when Field left St. Louis, he left

<sup>14</sup> U. S. Linder's Reminiscences, p. 205.

<sup>15</sup> Handlin adds: "Col. Field's face was large; rather long; thin toward the last, weary and wasted, with hollow cheeks from loss of teeth. High forehead; nose rather large, a little long and heavy with good nostrils; mouth wide; chin firm. His smile cordial and winning.

<sup>16</sup> A son of Polly, a negro woman of Springfield.—Herndon.



behind many friendships in Illinois. In St. Louis, however, which was the borderland of the South and its rather close observance of social forms, Field did not form many friendships. Down at New Orleans where the rules were drawn even more rigidly, it has been said of him that few men had more acquaintances in New Orleans and fewer friends<sup>17</sup>. Appearance there had its weight, and Field's appearance was never immaculate; it was the other extreme almost. While not shabby, it was slovenly; but he had no special aims or ambitions in New Orleans nor any other place. Over the Illinois circuit, and while sitting around the fire of the country tavern with brother lawyers and witnesses and suitors, Field would entertain his companions with stories, much too risqué, it must be confessed. He was a fine singer, to use the terms of Linder. He also would quote poetry *ad libitum*. It should be no matter of wonder, therefore, that he was immensely popular everywhere he went, among the backwoodsmen of Illinois. This same Linder recalls one instance at Carmi in White county, where Field was attending court, when he thrilled his large audience by singing the song to be found in Moore's *Melodies*, commencing:

"So slow our ship her foaming track,  
Against the wind was cleaving;  
Her trembling pennant still looked back  
To that dear old isle she was leaving."

The effect was electrical. Whether in story or song, conversation or casual greeting, Field never failed to impress deeply. It has been the State's loss that he was content to remain stationary while he lived in Illinois.

He was what is denominated a good liver; perhaps a high liver. He was a princely entertainer, though in New Orleans he never was permitted to become a popular

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<sup>17</sup> William Beers.





one and his habits should not be charged for the state of isolation he was permitted to enjoy in a social way. He had lived for so long a time in the northern State of Illinois, that he had absorbed the ways of Illinois and then, too, Field was a Union man to the core and men with that sentiment, which he took no pains to hide, were not popular candidates for favor at those times.

One incident occurred during the war, when one might suspect a yellow streak in Field's patriotism. Before the capture of New Orleans a card<sup>18</sup> appeared in a New Orleans paper to the effect that "some persons had slandered him by saying that he had gone on board a Yankee gunboat, a part of Farragut's fleet and then lying in the river, but that his known character for loyalty to the South should forbid the imputation from being believed by any person who knew him." Such a card did appear over Field's name and when Thad Stevens called upon Field for an explanation of it, he made no comments upon it in his speech. This published card. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler discovered and sent to Washington when Field appeared as a duly elected member of Congress, and demanded admission. There can be no doubt that that card had its influence with such rabid men as Stevens, though it must be said that Field's contemporary who claimed an election from the adjoining district, was also denied admission without any charge of disloyalty being made against him.

Of Field's honest election to a seat in the 38th Congress by the loyal men of Louisiana, there can be no doubt and at any other period of our history his right to a seat would not have been questioned. The paucity of votes (156) was first objected. Field explained the objection. Very few votes were cast. At the time of the election, November 2, 1863, a man named George F. Shepley and styled Brig. General, was military governor

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<sup>18</sup> In May, 1862, it appeared in the New Orleans Delta.



of New Orleans. When the loyal men of that city demanded a voice in the government of Washington, this man forbade the election. He suppressed it so far as the city was concerned. But it seems that a small territory outside the city was in Field's district and in that small territory a vote was polled and Field was duly elected by that vote. In vain he explained the facts; they were admitted, but after a long and heated debate the resolution refusing him the right to take his seat was passed by a vote of 85 to 48.

At the opening his name was enrolled and he was permitted to take his seat and with his colleague, Thomas Cottman, to vote upon some minor matters of organization, but those were all. At the passage of the resolution, however, Congress gave him the mileage and pay of a member up to and including the conclusion of the proceedings. His appeal<sup>19</sup> upon the floor of the house was a strong one<sup>20</sup> and would have stirred any but the man made mad in the midst of the great struggle to disrupt the Union and when it was over, Field returned to New Orleans and resumed his practice without carrying away any of the animosities which might have lodged in the breast of a man who in the face of ostracism and even bullets had declared his loyalty. It required boldness to return to New Orleans after making the speech which he made on the floor of Congress.<sup>21</sup>

At that time Field was a man of no financial means. He enjoyed a large practice and had enjoyed it during all his residence there, but his living expenses were high

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<sup>19</sup> He admitted that he had owned a few negroes. (So did Henry Clay. Recent records divulge the fact that Grant did too.—Ed.)

<sup>20</sup> While the card received no attention, sentiment and circumstances were noticed which would make any man quail; yet at that very time he was making public declarations that the Union should not be dissolved.

<sup>21</sup> I have been unable so far to learn the details of Field's fight with Judge Kelly on the return of the former to New Orleans. The affair grew out of Field's rejection and in the course of the same, Field stabbed Kelly.





and he consumed his income as he went along. In consequence when he went to Washington to demand his seat he was compelled to borrow the money to pay his expenses. Being particular about his obligations, the sum was returned duly.<sup>22</sup>

With the Kellogg crowd in 1873, Field was elected Attorney General of Louisiana. Nothing establishes the man's inherent honesty of purpose and action more than his conduct during that administration. Instead of winking at certain features of political misconduct while he was in office and which he might have found it advantageous to overlook, he centered his whole energies to break them up and prosecute the offenders. Then his tremendous ability was shown with the lustre which might have been his had he applied himself at any time before. He attacked what was called at the time, the ring, with such ferocity that we are told he broke it up effectually. That action wrung from those who had hated him, spontaneous and wide-spread applause.

The exact date when Field settled in New Orleans is not known. His first law partner, W. W. Handlin has told me that it was five or ten years prior to 1857.<sup>23</sup> If, as Governor Johnson thinks, he went to St. Louis about the year 1847, then of course he could not have settled in New Orleans in that year. Then too, it is possible that Governor Johnson might have erred, because Field would not probably have remained in Wisconsin after his term of four years expired. He was appointed Secretary of the territory in 1841, which would make his term of office expire in 1845, and I am inclined to think that date was practically the correct year for his settlement in St. Louis. If, as has been said, he did not remain long

<sup>22</sup> Mr. Handlin told me that Avendam Brothers, clients of his, loaned Field \$200, to go to Washington and that it was repaid.

<sup>23</sup> Herndon says Lincoln sent the money to Field about 1854, to secure the negro boy's release. In his obituary, written by his widow, it is stated he had lived in New Orleans over 30 years and I am inclined to believe, she is nearer right than others. Herndon, Vol. 2, p. 48, 2d Ed.



in St. Louis, he still might have settled in New Orleans in 1847. At all events Mr. Handlin, who went into the history of Field very minutely, must be held to know the man, his life and dates as well as any living authority, because he was one of the very few intimates which Field had in New Orleans. He has told me that when Farragut's fleet sailed up the river, that he and Field sung the Star Spangled Banner openly on the wharf. Speaking of Field's eloquence he put it thus: "He was as eloquent as a mocking bird."

Mr. Handlin, in commenting upon the estate which Field left, said it consisted of a fine residence and some other property. When at last, he dropped his expensive habits, he began to accumulate something and in a short time he would have secured a handsome competency. From his will I learned that the suit for succession was commenced September 16, 1876. He died intestate. His first wife died in September, 1863, in New Orleans. From the letter written by Hooper Warren already quoted, we know that he was a married man in 1829, and from letters written by Jonesboro parties, it is known that he married there; but her name we have been unable to secure even from the records of the probate court, because unfortunately, in moving the files from which the name might be gained, they were misplaced. By his first marriage, he had a daughter named Helena F., who at the time of her father's death was a spinster living in Louisville, Ky. Alice O. Field, another daughter, married a man named Samuel Smith, who lived in St. Louis at the time of her father's decease. There was another daughter named Julia E. Field, who married a man named Isaac V. W. Dutcher, Jr., who lived in St. Louis at the time of Field's death. There was a son, also of St. Louis, named Alexander P. Field. For a second wife, Field married Eliza Mills, widow of a steamboat pilot known as Jack Downing. Her son, Eugene, took the name of Field upon his adoption by the latter.





Field's death occurred on the 19th day of August, 1876. The entry made in the family bible is as follows:

"Died August 19th, 1876, at 2 P. M., Saturday, Alexander Pope Field, aged 75 years, 9 months and 19 days,—a native of Louisville, Kentucky, a resident of New Orleans, La., over thirty years. Died full of years, honored by all good men for his great personal merit and sterling integrity. Passed to rest surrounded by his many friends, with his devoted wife and son by his side, closing his dear eyes in sleep even as a babe on the breast of its mother, his hand clasping that of her who had so faithfully stood by his side in the declining years of his life, to be now left deserted indeed!

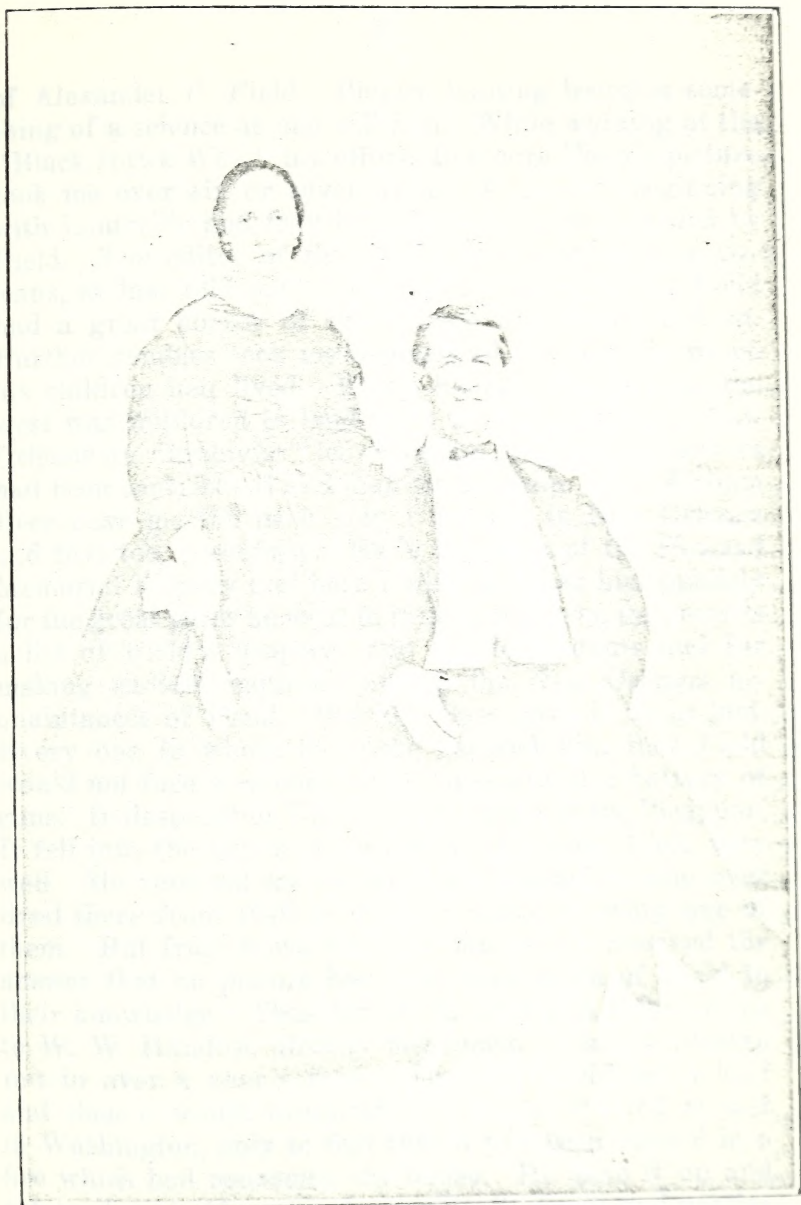
Minnie E. Field."

By this record it will be noticed that her name in full must have been Minnie Eliza. Mr. Handlin is authority for the statement that her maiden name was Violet.

To do Col. Field justice his obituary notices copied from the New Orleans papers should be copied in full. They put him in his true light as a fighter, a great trial lawyer and a thoroughly honest man. He was called Colonel to the day of his death. This title was not secured from his service in the Black Hawk War, which contained nothing in the way of titles less than Colonel. So early as 1829 he was styled Colonel. In correspondence and through the kindness of Adjutant General Frank S. Dickson, we have been enabled to discover his first claim to a military title. On November 27, 1821, he was appointed Major of the Tenth Regiment, Illinois Militia, to rank from the same date. To step from the office of Major to that of Colonel was an easy matter in those early days and the title "Colonel" went to him from this commission, which was given him in his twenty-first year.

Before concluding, I cannot resist the temptation to mention the persistent efforts required to find a picture





ALEXANDER POPE FIELD AND WIFE.





of Alexander P. Field. Picture hunting becomes something of a science as one will find. While working at the "Black Hawk War," my efforts to secure Field's picture took me over six or seven years of inquiry, beginning with Louisville and traveling along the path pursued by Field. The editor of the Times-Democrat of New Orleans, at last told me to give up my search; that Field had a great horror of the camera and would not sit. Further rambles took me through all the cities in which his children had lived. Every historical society in the west was implored to lend their services. Once in New Orleans an "archivist" led me along until several dollars had been contributed and then let me drop. Mr. William Beer gave me the most help I secured in New Orleans and that too, cheerfully. He is librarian of the Howard Memorial Library and here I wish to thank him publicly for the great pains he went to in securing from the records a list of Field's property and his descendants and for making endless inquiries among the New Orleans acquaintances of Field. But Mr. Beer gave it up at last. Every one to whom he spoke assured him that Field would not face a camera under pressure of a battery of guns. In desperation I addressed a letter to the Picayune. It fell into the hands of an editor who knew Field very well. He referred me to every photographer who ever lived there from 1840 to 1876. I wrote to every one of them. But from those who had not died I received the answer that no picture had ever been made of Field to their knowledge. Then Mr. J. M. Augustin referred me to W. W. Handlin, already mentioned. This gentleman put in over a year's time. First he would get a lead and then it would evaporate. One was located at last in Washington, only to find that it had been burned in a fire which had consumed the house. He gave it up and referred me to Memphis, Louisville, St. Louis and parties elsewhere, all of whom declared they knew nothing of a picture. Nearly two years after our first correspond-



ence, Mr. Handlin sent me two pictures of Field and I promptly sent them to Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber, our secretary, to be copied. In all over ten years had been consumed in that search.

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(From the New Orleans Democrat, Sunday, August 20th,  
1876.)

### A DEAD LION.

In the death of Alexander P. Field, which occurred on Saturday last, this state has lost a valuable citizen and the Bar one of its ablest and sturdiest members. Few men could have borne with such courage and constancy, against the many obstacles, insults and annoyances to which Col. Field has been exposed from the ungrateful, treacherous and corrupt party and administration during the last year, whilst afflicted with a most painful, weakening and exhausting disease. The stout heart and dauntless spirit of the veteran, even when lying helpless in his bed, hurled defiance at his enemies, and his last hours of consultation with his friends and representatives in the duties of his profession, related to the vigorous prosecution of certain state officials for defalcation. Col. Field was of the stock and training which produced such characters as he developed in the course of his services as the Radical Attorney General under Kellogg's administration.

He was a Kentuckian by birth, emigrated to Illinois, when it was a territory, served that State in several capacities; as a member of the legislature, district attorney, and finally as Secretary of State.

It was while in this position that the celebrated quo warranto case arose, to which Col. Field and Stephen A. Douglas were parties, involving the title to the office, and the proper proceedings to determine the right. A strong Whig in politics, Col. Field was appointed by General Harrison, Secretary of State for the new terri-





tory of Wisconsin. After practicing law in that territory and participating in the organization of the state government.<sup>24</sup> Col Field was induced to remove to St. Louis, to engage in a larger field in the practice of law, his reputation, especially as a criminal lawyer, having extended throughout the West. A few years later, he came to this city and soon attracted attention by his remarkable skill and robust oratory as a criminal pleader and advocate. He soon acquired a large practice, and for many years, was engaged in nearly all the important criminal prosecutions.

In politics Col. Field was always a strong and consistent Whig, and when secession was proclaimed in this state, he became a zealous Unionist, then a moderate conservative Republican, but never a Radical; in fact he was always opposed to the extreme views and sectionalism of that party.

As a member of Congress, or claiming a seat therein, by virtue of an irregular election, he manifested his utter contempt for, and bitter opposition to, the ultra leaders of the party. As Attorney General, put in by that party, he kept up a continual fight with his rascally associates, and wore out his energies and his life in the exposure and pursuit of their misdeeds, their corruptions, their violations of law, and perpetual plunderings of the state. They beset him with all sorts of traps, and devilments to drive him out of his office, and set upon him a pack of sub-officials, to vex and worry him into quietude, but the old lion was game to the last. In the history of the operations of his office for the last two years, will be found the compend of Radical corruption and lawlessness during Kellogg's administration.

As a criminal prosecutor, Col. Field had few equals in this country; his mind was uncommonly clear, vigorous, quick and sagacious. He had a great knowledge of

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<sup>24</sup> Error.



human character, and possessed a robust eloquence and trenchant satire, which made him exceedingly effective before a jury. The frontier simplicity and roughness added to the force of his utterance, and conciliated popular favor and confidence.

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(From the New Orleans Times, Monday, August 21st, 1876.)

### LAI'D AWAY TO REST.

A. P. FIELD.

The funeral of the late Attorney General Field, was attended, last evening,<sup>26</sup> by a large number of persons, including many State and Federal officials, as well as the friends of the family.

The services were held at the late residence of the deceased, on Terpsichore, near Coliseum street, and were conducted by Rev. T. R. Markham, whose remarks upon the occasion were quite affecting. After the service, the pall-bearers, Judges Cotton, Posey, Heistand, Lynch, John Ray, and Messrs J. K. Bell, P. F. Herwig and Thomas McKnight, conveyed the remains, in a handsome metallic casket, to the hearse, which, followed by a long line of carriages, bore them to Lafayette Cemetery No. 1, where the last rites were performed, and all that was mortal of the late Attorney General, were committed to the tomb.

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<sup>26</sup> 5 o'clock.





(From the Daily Picayune, New Orleans, August 22d,  
1876.)

(Local article from the evening edition of the 21st.)

### THE COURTS.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT—THE NEW ASSISTANT ATTORNEY  
GENERAL—DEATH OF HON. A. P. FIELD, AND  
GEN. HARRY T. HAYS.

At 11 o'clock this (Monday) morning Judge Henry C. Dibble appeared before this tribunal and presented his commission as Assistant Attorney General which was ordered by Judge Lynch to be spread on the minutes of the Court.

Judge Dibble then announced the death of Hon. A. P. Field, Attorney General of the State of Louisiana, which occurred on Saturday. He said that in the demise of Col. Field, Louisiana had suffered an irreparable loss. He was one of the most distinguished members of the Bar and was characterized by his integrity of purpose. His life should be a light to all members of the Bar, as he was talented, learned, and never swerved from the path of duty.

Judge Dibble moved to adjourn the Court, in respect to the memory of the deceased.

Judge Cotton then rose and seconded the motion to adjourn. He said he had known Col. Field since 1851.<sup>26</sup> He had been associated with him in many criminal cases. The deceased had a vigorous intellect and a superior knowledge of human nature.

The talent he showed in the examination of witnesses was most remarkable. He stood at the head of his profession and was fearless in the defense of his clients. No man in office performed his duty as Col. Field had that of Attorney General. His memory deserved respect and veneration.

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<sup>26</sup> This date sheds light on his New Orleans residence.



## SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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TO BE HELD IN THE OLD SUPREME COURT ROOM, IN THE  
STATE HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, ILL., APRIL 14, 1911, IN  
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE FALL OF FORT SUMTER, THE REAL  
BREAKING OUT OF THE WAR BETWEEN  
THE STATES, 1861-1865.

The program for the special meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society to be held on April 14, 1911, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumter, the actual beginning of the war between the states, is as follows:

### AFTERNOON MEETING.

Address—The Patriotism of Northern Illinois.....  
.....Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Freeport, Ill.

Address—The Slave Empire.....  
.....Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin, Peoria, Ill.

Address—Southern Illinois in the Civil War.....  
.....Hon. Bluford Wilson, Springfield, Ill.

### EVENING MEETING.

Address—The Civil War in America, 1861-1865.....  
.....Hon. Marcus Kavanagh, Chicago, Ill.

Col. Clark E. Carr, president of the Illinois State Historical Society will preside over the meeting and introduce the speakers. The music will be the old war time music and will be led by the Woman's Relief Corps quartette, of Springfield, Ill., with Mrs. G. Clinton Smith as leader.





Members of the Historical Society are urged to attend this meeting.

In 1860 Illinois had become the fourth state in the Union and after the Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 it had become a great political power. Chicago had become a great city, having at that time a population of 109,206, and Illinois was then entitled to thirteen congressmen in the national Congress. In the great Mississippi valley the political pot was boiling at a furious rate and the great question of the extension or non-extension of slavery had reached a point where some adjustment was an absolute necessity. In 1858, at an evening meeting on the same date as the Republican State convention at Springfield, Mr. Lincoln had made his famous speech in which he had quoted from holy writ, in sense, if not in exact words, "A house divided against itself can not stand," and later on had in the Lincoln-Douglas debates made plain his position on the question of the extension of slavery into the new territories. His position did not suit the -extreme and radical anti-slavery men, but it showed them that he could be trusted not to favor and foster the growth of the national evil. The Republican State convention met at Decatur on May 9, 1860. This convention was presided over by Judge Joseph Gillespie, and the deliberations showed the strength at least in his own state, of Mr. Lincoln's candidacy which the geographical position and power of the State fostered.

#### NOMINATED YATES FOR GOVERNOR.

This convention did another most important thing. It nominated Richard Yates for governor. Mr. Lincoln was nominated at Chicago on May 16 for the presidency of the United States and Illinois became the center of political activity of the United States, and the little city of Springfield the mecca of politicians. After the November elections the actual beginnings of war were opened and on Dec. 20, 1860, South Carolina passed an



ordinance to dissolve the union between the state of South Carolina and the federal union. In January, 1861, similar ordinances were passed by other southern states. In January Governor Yates was inaugurated and his inaugural message bravely met and faced these momentous and delicate questions. He declared that the valley of the Mississippi must forever remain an undivided territory, and described the importance of the State of Illinois in case a crisis should arise. This inaugural message of Governor Yates has been declared by many writers to be one of the ablest and most scholarly papers ever submitted to a state legislature in Illinois.

#### PEACE CONFERENCE FAILED.

On Feb. 2, 1861, a peace conference was held at Washington, D. C., called by the state of Virginia to attempt to devise means to prevent the imminent war. To this convention Governor Yates sent as delegates from the State of Illinois, Stephen T. Logan, John M. Palmer, John Wood, Burton C. Cook and Thomas J. Turner. These distinguished men labored earnestly in that convention, but all efforts at conciliation failed. On Feb. 11, 1861, Mr. Lincoln left his old home at Springfield to go to Washington to assume his duties. He never returned alive to his home city.

When Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated the confederate states of America had already met at Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 9, 1861, and had organized a government of which Jefferson Davis was president and Alexander H. Stephens, vice president.

Mr. Lincoln was immediately face to face with problems and a task greater than had presented itself to any President of the United States.

#### REAL BEGINNING OF THE WAR.

The firing on Fort Sumter on April 12 by the confederate forces under General Beauregard and the evacua-





tion of the fort on the 14th of the same month was the real beginning of the war between the states.

On the next day, April 15, 1861, Mr. Lincoln issued a call for troops to subdue "combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, and to cause the laws to be duly executed." Governor Yates immediately called a special session of the State Legislature to enact laws for the more perfect equipment of the militia. At the breaking out of the war between the states, 1861, the standing army of the United States consisted of only about 16,000 men, and during that war Illinois alone furnished more than two hundred and fifty thousand men.

Her people rushed to the defense of the country and regiment after regiment was organized, equipped and drilled and mustered into the service of the United States. The numbering of the regiments began with number seven as a compliment to the six regiments of Illinois troops who had served in the Mexican war. The first two Illinois regiments to enter the service were the Seventh Illinois, commanded by Colonel John Cook, and the Eighth, commanded by Colonel Richard J. Oglesby. The Fourteenth was commanded by John M. Palmer, and the Twenty-first by General U. S. Grant. The State furnished 149 regiments of infantry, seventeen regiments of cavalry, two artillery regiments, and nine independent batteries. The service of the State and of Governor Yates can not be estimated. The names of Illinoisans appear wherever deeds of valor are recorded.

It is now fifty years since these stirring days and the Illinois State Historical Society proposes on April 14, 1911, to observe at Springfield, the fiftieth anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumter, in a manner in keeping with the historical importance and solemnity of the event commemorated. This date will also be the forty-sixth anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. A curious circumstance is the fact that this anniversary



will fall upon Good Friday as did the fourteenth of April on the day of Mr. Lincoln's assassination.

#### WILL BE STATE-WIDE EVENT.

The Society expects to make the observance of this historic date a state-wide event and it hopes to have the aid and encouragement of the patriotic societies of the State, such as the G. A. R., Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, and Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution and all others of like nature, as well as the citizens of the State generally.

An afternoon meeting will be held, at which time the addresses will be made by prominent speakers showing the part taken by the State of Illinois in the great four years' struggle, 1861 to 1865.

No one can picture to himself the stupendous effect of the civil war in America upon world history. Leaving out of reckoning what the effect of dissolution of the federal union would have meant to America; the states which might have set up petty governments for themselves, something after the manner of the South American countries of today; leaving also out of account the freeing of the negro race, and looking at the civil war from an economic standpoint, its results and its outgrowth have made of our country a new country, and out of our people a new race of prosperous, united Americans. The range of speculation, though boundless, is a useless one, for we have secured and enjoy the fruits of this sacrifice; nevertheless, it is the duty of historical and patriotic associations to commemorate these great historical anniversaries and to show to the world and teach our children by the light of recorded history what the great war between the states meant to the country and the world, what it cost our country and its participants and what it accomplished for the whole country, and what it makes possible for us and for future generations.





The members of the Historical Society, other patriotic societies and the public generally are urged to attend these meetings and to aid in the celebration. Letters and inquiries should be addressed to the secretary of the Society.

#### MUCH INTEREST SHOWN.

Great interest is being expressed in the celebration. The secretary of the Society has received letters from old soldiers and other distinguished persons from Maine to California.

Citizens of Springfield are urged to invite their friends to visit them at the time and with them attend the services. The following letters speak for themselves:

#### LETTER FROM SENATOR CULLOM.

WASHINGTON, March 28.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,

Secretary Historical Society, Springfield, Ill.:

MY DEAR MRS. WEBER: I have just received a communication from you announcing that there will be a meeting held at which addresses will be made on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of the civil war—April 14, 1861.

I should be delighted to be present on those occasions. I know General Smith D. Adkins will make a delightful speech. Eugene Baldwin of Peoria will also make a good speech, and my friend Hon. Bluford Wilson will also make a fine address. I would be very glad to hear each of them, but will not be able to be present at the occasion, as Congress re-convenes on next Tuesday and will probably be in session for months, which I regret very much, but I think it is probably inevitable.

Thanking you for writing me and telling me about the proposed meetings and addresses, I am as ever, very sincerely yours,

S. M. CULLOM.



## LETTER FROM MAJOR CONNELLY.

PASADENA, CAL., March 28.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,

Secretary Illinois Historical Society, Springfield, Ill.:

MY DEAR MADAM: I have received yours of the 23d inst., in which you inform me that on April 14, 1911, the society will hold a special meeting to commemorate the semi-centennial anniversary of the breaking out of the war of the rebellion.

This is a most worthy movement on the part of your organization. Every old soldier in Illinois, as well as elsewhere, when they hear of your efforts to do honor to the living, as well as the dead, who participated in the war, will rise and call you blessed.

I can not be with you in person on the day mentioned, but will be with you in spirit in commemorating this blessed historical event. Very respectfully.

H. C. CONNELLY,  
Late Major Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry.





ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, EVANSTON AND  
CHICAGO, MAY 17-18, 1911.

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Contrary to the usual custom of the Illinois State Historical Society, its annual meeting will be held in Chicago and Evanston on Wednesday and Thursday, May 17-18, 1911, in conjunction with the meetings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, the Evanston Historical Society, and the North Central History Teachers' Association. The Chicago Historical Society will be the host of the State Society on the morning of Thursday, May 18th.

The program for the Illinois State Historical Society's part in the joint meeting will be on Wednesday afternoon, May 17th, at which time the meeting will be held in the chapel of the Northwestern University. A paper on the Growth of Our State Constitutions will be presented by Prof. C. B. Coleman, of Butler College, Indianapolis; a paper on Thomas Sloo, a typical early Illinois politician, by Prof. I. J. Cox, of the University of Cincinnati; and a paper will be presented on the Fordham and LaSerre Families in the English Settlement in Edwards County, Illinois, by Walter Colyer, of Albion, Ill. The business meeting of the Society will be held in the rooms of the Chicago Historical Society on Thursday morning, May 18th, at which time, in addition to the annual reports of the officers and committees of the Society, the election of officers and other business, a memorial paper will be read on the life and services of the late William H. Collins, of Quincy, Ill. It is hoped that Rev. James Robert



Smith, of Quincy, will prepare this paper on Mr. Collins. Dr. Smith was a warm friend of Mr. Collins and was in a position to appreciate his qualities of mind and heart and do justice to them in this address.

The annual address of the Society will be presented at Evanston by Hon. Clark E. Carr, the president of the Society.

Prof. F. I. Herriott, of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, has been invited to address the Society on the subject of the German element in the Republican Convention of 1860, and has accepted the invitation. The joint meeting of the several historical associations will continue from the 17th to the 20th of May.

A copy of the completed program of the combined sessions will be mailed the members of the Society before the meeting.

The members of the Illinois State Historical Society are urged to make special efforts to attend the meeting at Chicago and Evanston. As stated above due notice will be given the members in advance of the meeting.





## THE BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF BLACK HAWK.<sup>1</sup>

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Dr. J. F. Snyder.

An interesting instance of the persistence of pristine mortuary customs of the Indians was observed, in 1870, by the writer, in the former territory of the Osages near the Arkansas river, above Wichita. At the head of a small grave mound in one of their old cemeteries was still standing the remnant of a thick walnut board, rotted and broken by long exposure to the weather, on which were many strange figures deeply carved, and the whole surface painted in blue, red, and green colors, yet but little faded. The grave was but three feet deep, and contained the much decayed skeleton of a young girl, buried there probably fifty years before. On the wrists and ankles were brass rings, and around the neck a necklace of glass beads of various colors, among which were strung three U. S. Army brass buttons and a U. S. Army belt buckle. At one side of the skull was a white granite-ware tea cup, in which were a few bird bones and other fragments of the food it originally contained, covered over with a large mussel shell. At the other side of the head was an ordinary glass bottle, no doubt filled with water when placed there. Here were presented all the conditions of the earliest Indian burials; the tea cup and glass bottle substituted for similar ancient vessels of clay pottery, and the glass beads and brass ornaments in

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<sup>1</sup> This paper is a modified and corrected reproduction of "The Burial of Black Hawk" I wrote for the Magazine of American History in May, 1886. J. F. S.



place of those wrought by their remote ancestors from bone, shell, and native copper.

In the burial of Black Hawk, by his band, could be discerned traces of analogous ancestral customs.

An eminent American ethnologist, in the course of a public lecture, in 1881, to support his contention that many of our Indian tribes continued, until a late period, the erection of sepulchral mounds over the remains of their distinguished dead, stated that Black Hawk's kinsmen, "after having deposited the body of their venerated chief in a grave six feet deep, heaped over it a great mound of earth several feet in height."

Inquiring of the lecturer his sources of information for this interesting fact—that the Sacs and Foxes were mound builders as late as 1838—he referred me to Henry R. Schoolcraft, LL. D., who, half a century ago, was our highest authority on matters pertaining to the North American Indians, and who, a few years before, compiled for the government six ponderous quarto volumes, profusely illustrated, entitled, "The History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States." The author of that great work was one of the few men of education who, at that period, had devoted much time to the personal observation and study of Indian customs and character. Dr. Schoolcraft passed thirty years of his life among our Indian tribes, and his wife was the granddaughter of an Indian chief. He visited almost every tribe living between the eastern seaboard and the Rocky Mountains; consequently the accounts he gave of them, in his many publications, were, in his time, regarded as exhaustive and thoroughly reliable.

The career of Black Hawk is familiar to all readers of western history. For some time he was a prominent figure in the affairs of this State, and caused our struggling settlers much trouble and many hardships, which, however, were in a measure compensated by the glory he unwittingly shed upon the administration of





Governor Reynolds. His contest with the young chief, Keokuk, for supremacy in his tribe, and of his gallant, but hopeless efforts to regain the homes and graves of his ancestors, are now a fading page of history, and he is known chiefly as merely the instigator of a petty hostile incursion of a wretched band of his followers on our unprotected frontier border. Yet, as late as 1886, many of our citizens then living had seen him, and some of them personally knew him well. Intelligent white men then resided near the spot where he died, and were cognizant of every detail of his burial. Considering these facts, it seems strange that the particulars of his death and burial should have been unknown to Mr. Schoolcraft, when he could so easily have obtained correct information of every circumstance attending the event. But he disposes of the famous warrior's last days and final interment in the following brief terms (Vol. VI, p. 454): "He was safely conducted to his home on the distant Mississippi, where he lived many years, a wiser and a better man. After his death his tribesmen gave to his remains those rites of sepulture which are only bestowed upon the most distinguished men. They buried him in war dress, in sitting posture, on an eminence and covered him with a mound of earth." No dates are given; nor is the location of his "home on the distant Mississippi" indicated; nor is there any mention of ceremonies at his grave, or any fact stated by which the magnitude of the "mound of earth" covering him can be estimated.

One of the several biographies of Black Hawk that had appeared prior to that of Frank E. Stevens, in 1903,<sup>2</sup> was that of Benjamin Drake, published in Cincinnati in 1848. The account given of the noted warrior's burial in this little volume was communicated to Mr. Drake by Col. Charles C. Whittlesey, the eminent scientist of Cleveland, Ohio, who, a few years before, when engaged in

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<sup>2</sup> The Black Hawk War, including a review of Black Hawk's Life. By Frank E. Stevens. Chicago, 1903.



the geological exploration of Wisconsin Territory, had journeyed "to the far west, about the mouth of the DesMoines river," and had learned from settlers in that distant wilderness these facts related by Mr. Drake, on page 246, as follows: "After his death he was dressed in the uniform presented to him by the President, or Secretary of War, and placed upon a rude bier, consisting of two poles with bark laid across, on which he was carried by four or five of his braves to the place of interment, followed by his family and about fifty of his tribe (the chiefs being all absent). \* \* \* The grave was six feet deep and of the usual length, situated upon a little eminence about fifty yards from his wigwam. The body was placed in the middle of the grave in a sitting posture, upon a seat constructed for the purpose. On his left side the cane given him by Mr. Henry Clay was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. Many of the old warrior's trophies were placed in the grave, and some Indian garments, together with his favorite weapons. The grave was then covered with plank, and a mound of earth, several feet in height, was then thrown over it, and the whole enclosed in pickets twelve feet high. At the head of the grave a flagstaff was placed bearing our national banner, and at the foot there stands a post on which is inscribed in Indian characters his age."

Until 1863 this account was copied in our histories as authentic, and comprised all that to that time had been published relating to the disposition of Black Hawk's remains.

It is generally known that when he returned from Washington and his tour of the eastern cities, in 1837, Black Hawk settled, with a remnant of his band of Sacs and Foxes, including his relatives and personal adherents, on the reservation set apart for them by the government, by previous treaty, on the DesMoines river in the (then) Territory of Iowa; and the old warrior's cabin





and village were situated on the north bank of that stream, near the present town of Iowaville, in the northeastern corner of Davis county. He died there, at the age of seventy-two, of bilious fever, on the third day of October, 1838, while nearly all of his people were gone to Rock Island to meet the United States Commissioners for the adjustment of certain claims.<sup>3</sup> He had been failing physically for some time, and was too feeble to bear the fatigue of the journey to Fort Armstrong on that occasion. His last illness was of two weeks' duration. No white person witnessed his death, as he was attended only by his wife and family, and the medicine man of his band.

My investigations to ascertain to what extent, in this particular instance, the Sacs and Foxes adhered to their ancestral custom of mound building, resulted in securing from living witnesses accurate details of Black Hawk's burial, as well as reliable information of the resurrection of his remains and their accidental cremation. In the different accounts received, slight discrepancies occur, but they generally agree in the leading incidents closing the history of the old warrior's eventful life. Capt. Jas. H. Jordan was a trader among the Sacs and Foxes before Black Hawk's death, was present at his burial, and when I wrote, was still residing on the very spot where he died. To my inquiries he answered as follows:

"Eldon, Io., July 15, 1881.

Black Hawk was buried on the N. E. qr. of the S. E. qr. of Sec. 2, township 70, range 12, Davis county, Iowa, near the northeastern corner of the county, on the Des Moines River bottom, about ninety rods from where he lived at the time he died, on the north side of the river. I have the ground where he lived for a door yard, it being between my house and the river. The only mound over the

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<sup>3</sup> As-shaw-e-qua, (Singing bird), widow of Black Hawk, died at the Sac reservation, on the Kansas river, on the 29th of August, 1846, at the age of 85 years.



grave was some puncheons split out and set over his grave and then sodded over with blue grass, making a ridge about four feet high. A flag-staff, some 20 feet high, was planted at his head, on which was a silk flag, which hung there until the wind wore it out. My house and his were only about four rods apart when he died. He was sick only about fourteen days. He was buried right where he sat the year before, when in council with Iowa Indians, and was buried in a suit of military clothes, made to order and given to him when in Washington City by Gen. Jackson, with hat, sword, gold epaulets, &c, &c."

From another old settler of that locality, Mr. Isaac Nelson, the following was received:

"Hickory, Io., June 24, 1881.

I came to Iowa in the spring of 1836, and was two or three times near Black Hawk's house, but never went in to see him. \* \* \* He was buried in a manner on the top of the ground, but his feet were about sixteen inches in the ground and his head about a foot above the surface. He had on a suit of military clothes; four new nice blankets were wrapped around him, a pillow of feathers was under his head, a plug hat was on his head, and an old-fashioned brussel stock around his neck. You may ask how I saw all of this when he was in his grave. I will try to describe the way in which he was buried, and then you will understand it. A forked post had been planted at his head, and one at his feet; a ridge pole was laid in these forks, and then puncheons put over him in the shape of a roof, and the earth thrown on, which made a rise of two or three feet above him. The whites had taken out the two ends so we could see through. The grave had been enclosed with pickets some eight feet high, planted in the ground with joints broken; but these the whites had forced apart so that we could easily creep in. His feet were to the east, and his head to the west. At his feet was a shaved oak post with painting on it, and at his head a pole with a nice silk flag. All the grass and weeds were kept out of the enclosure, and for some





distance around the outside. He had no coffin, but was laid full length on a board with four fine blankets around him."

In the *Annals of Iowa* (1863, p. 50; and 1864, pp. 353 *et seq.*), Willard Barrows, Esq., and Capt. H. B. Horn also state that Black Hawk's body was laid on a board which was sunk at the foot or lower end, about fifteen inches below the surface of the ground, while the other, or upper end of the board was raised, and supported three feet above it; thus his body reclined at an angle with the horizon of some twenty-five or thirty degrees. "He was dressed in the military uniform of a colonel of the regular army, said to have been presented to him by a member of President Jackson's cabinet, with a cap on his head elaborately ornamented in Indian style with feathers. At his left side was a sword, which had been presented to him by Gen. Jackson; and at his right side were placed two canes, one of which he had received from Hon. Henry Clay, the other was the gift of an officer of the British army. Besides these were deposited on either side other presents and trophies, highly prized by him as mementos of his valor and greatness. About his neck were ribbons suspending three medals, one the gift of President Jackson, another was presented to him by ex-President John Quincy Adams, and the third by the city of Boston. The body was enclosed with boards resting on end on either side, and meeting on a ridge-pole fixed on forked posts set in the ground at the head and feet, forming a roof with an open space below. The gables of this rude vault were closed with boards, and the whole was covered with earth, and then sodded over. At the head was a flag-staff thirty-five feet high, which bore an American flag worn out by exposure, and near by was the usual hewn post inscribed with Indian characters, representing his deeds of bravery, and record as a warrior. Enclosing all was a strong circular picket fence twelve feet high."





His body remained there until July, 1839, when it was resurrected, and carried off, by one Doctor Turner, who then lived at Lexington, Van Buren county, Iowa. Capt. Horn says that Dr. Turner subsequently took the denuded skeleton of the defunct warrior to Alton, Illinois, for the purpose of having the bones articulated with wire. Mr. Barrows says the skeleton was sent to Warsaw, Illinois.

The sons of Black Hawk were very indignant when they heard of the desecration of their father's grave, and complained of it to Governor Lucas, at that time the Governor of Iowa Territory, and his Excellency at once caused the bones to be brought to Burlington, the Territorial capital, and held securely for their proper custodians. But when the young Black Hawks came to take possession of the osseous remains of their illustrious sire, it seems that finding them safely stored "in a good, dry place," they concluded to leave them there. A year or two later the skeleton was deposited in the collection of the Burlington Geological and Historical Society, and there is no doubt was destroyed by the great fire that, in 1855, swept away the building and all it contained of the Society's collections. However, the editor of the *Annals of Iowa*, (April, 1865, p. 478), said there were good reasons to believe that the bones were not lost in the burning of the museum, and he was "credibly informed they were then at the residence of a former officer of the Society, and thus escaped that catastrophe."

Dr. J. H. Rauch, the first Secretary of the Illinois State Board of Health, was, at the time of said catastrophe, secretary of the Burlington Geological and Historical Society, and stated to the writer that when the historic skeleton was returned to the territorial capital, by order of the executive, it was placed in the care of Dr. Enos Lowe, who deposited it in the Society's museum after Black Hawk's sons, and all of his band, had removed to the far west. It was possible, Dr. Rauch intimated, that Dr. Lowe may have taken the skeleton with





him when, a few years later, he moved from Burlington to Omaha, Nebraska.

Dr. Lowe's son, Gen. W. W. Lowe,, was then still a resident of Omaha, and to him I addressed certain interrogatories which he promptly answered as follows, under date of November 29, 1881:

"After Black Hawk's grave had been rifled, and his bones had been recovered, the tribe (Sacs and Foxes) requested my father to take possession of them, and he did so, wiring them, and keeping the skeleton in his office, where, for a long time they continued to come to view it. Subsequently, with the consent of the tribe, he presented it to the Geological and Historical Society of Burlington, and there the remains were destroyed by the burning of their building in 1855."

This is conclusive that said remains of the old warrior were finally consumed by fire; and this closing act, though unaccompanied by the savage wailings of his people, was altogether in harmony with his restless, turbulent life.

The old belief that the mound builders were a distinct race inhabiting this country before the Indians, and superior to them in physical and mental culture, has long ago been proven a fallacy. America was peopled, from the Arctic zone to Tierra del Fuego, by but one race, the red American Indians, and those observed here by the first Europeans—and their descendents to a later date—were the mound builders. But although the mound building custom had become obsolete among all North American Indians long before 1838, many of them still retained ideas and traditions of the primitive method of their ancestors in the inhumation of their dead. Thus, in the burial of Black Hawk by his kinsmen, can be seen a curious vestige of mound interment practiced in prehistoric ages by their earliest ancestry.

As then, the warrior's dead body, arrayed in his best raiment and trappings, surrounded by his arms, orna-



ments, and the trophies he most highly prized in life, was placed on the surface of the ground as nearly as practicable in the sitting posture. In this instance the ridge pole and puncheons covering—borrowed from encroaching pioneer civilization—were substituted, as protection of the corpse from ravages of wild beasts, for the rude stone wall, or crib work of cedar logs, of former times, and the four fine blankets did service in place of the dressed deer skins and buffalo robes, with bark covering, of the long ago. And over all was raised the rudimentary mound of earth and sod, which only lacked the addition of earth contributed by each individual of the tribe at its annual visits to the sepulcher, to swell it, in a few years, to a monument in proportions worthy of the rank, ability and achievements of the distinguished dead.





## DEATH OF THE LAST SURVIVOR OF THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

On March 11, 1911, Henry L. Riggs, of Morgan county, died at the home of his sister in Kirksville, Missouri, where he had gone to pass the winter. He was born in Kentucky on January 12, 1812, and had reached the age of 99 years, 1 month and 27 days. He came to Illinois in 1830, and when Gov. Reynolds, in 1832, called for volunteers to repel the invasion of Black Hawk and his band, he enlisted as a private in the Morgan county company commanded by Capt. Wm. Gillham, and served through that renowned conflict. It is very probable that he was the last survivor of that memorable historic Indian campaign.

Mr. Riggs was married to Miss Mary Berry on the 17th of November, 1837, with whom he lived until her death in 1890, and was a resident of Lynnville, Morgan county, for the last thirty-five years. Though but twenty years of age in 1832, he cast his first vote for Gen. Jackson for the Presidency, and was a zealous Democrat until his death. He was a robust, active man, spending much of his time in the open air, doing all the work about his premises, and last fall sawed and split eight cords of wood. He is survived by six children. His body was brought from Kirksville, and interred in Diamond Grove cemetery at Jacksonville.



## CHURCH RECORDS OF SALT CREEK CIRCUIT, 1829-1833.

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Mrs. W. R. Cowden, of 815 East Washington street, Bloomington, Ill., in looking over some ancient family relics a few days ago, found among her collection a small document which she prizes very highly and which will no doubt receive the best of care through the generations to come.

The paper was originally owned by her grandfather, Mr. Henry Dement, and seems to be the minutes of the meetings of the Salt Creek circuit which was one of the earliest Methodist circuits in this section of the country. The date of the first quarterly meeting is December 12, 1829, and gives the minutes of every meeting through November 9, 1833.

During most of this time the minutes are signed in the handwriting of the famous Peter Cartwright, who was one of the earliest pioneer ministers as a circuit rider. The names of those who attended the first meeting are as follows: Peter Cartwright, William Deneen, elder, Christian Shingles, Henry Dement, Young McLemon and Ezekiel Judd. These persons were members of the circuit for most of the time during these years and only a few names were changed.

In one of the meetings, Young McLemon applied for a license to preach and before the license was granted to him he was compelled to display his powers and ability before the members of the circuit. At another meeting one of the ministers was discharged on account of being found guilty of using intoxicants, as he had been found drunk several times.





Also connected with the small paper, which only contains eight written pages, is a report of the treasurer which gives a complete list of the expenditures of the church. The expenses at that time were exceedingly meagre and the ministers received only a small sum. From the statement, Peter Cartwright was only allowed the value of \$2.75 per quarter. This is supposed to be the exact amount that Cartwright received at that time and it seems now almost impossible for one to have lived on such a salary.

Copy of

“SECRETARY[S.] BOOK FOR SALT CREEK CIRCUIT.”

By James Stringfield, August 7th day, 1830.

[Copied by Milo Custer, Mar. 24, 1911.]

[NOTE—All words, signs, etc., in brackets were supplied by me. M. C.]

1st Quarterly Meeting. Conference held. Salt Creek Circuit [at] David Riddles, December 12th day 1829.

Members présent: Peter Cartwright, Elder, William Deneen, C. P. Christian Shingles, Ext. Henry Deneen, Young McLemon, Ezekiel Judd, Class Leaders.

Question by the P. E. are there any Appeals [?]

Ans. the case of John Overstreet, a Local Preacher who was Suspended on the Charge of Intoxication was presented to the Conference and two Certificates in favor of the Charge Read and a communication from sd. Overstreet Wherein he admits the Charge in Substance, he Declining to make any Confession to the Church.

Quest. by the P. E. what punishment will you inflict on sd. Overstreet[?] on motion it was Decided that sd. Overstreet is Expel[l]ed from the Methodist E. Church.

Br. James Stringfield Elected Recording Steward. Jacob Constant was Elected Steward. David Riddle was Elected Steward. David Owen was also Elected Steward.



on motion its Resolved that this Quarterly Conference take the Labanon Seminary Under its patronage. Young McLemon is Elected manager of sd. Simenary, and also resolved to patronize the Destrict *Sunday School Society of the Methodist E. Church.*

Peter Cartwright. P. E.

the 2d and 3d Quarterly Meeting, no Conference Held as there was no business Cal'd for it.

2d held Bethel M. H. March 27 day 1830.

3d held June 26, 1830, [at] Stephens Settlement, north fork Sangamon.

4th Quarterly Meeting Conference held [at] Bro. Shingles for Salt Creek Circuit, September 11 day, 1830.

Members present, Peter Carwright, P. Elder, William L. Deneen, C. preacher, James Stringfield. L. E. Young McLemon, C. L. Christian Shingles, Ext'r. Dial Davis, Ext'r. David Riddle, C. L. William C. L. Ezekiel Judd, C. L. Corben Judd, C. L. John Rutherford, C. L. Daniel M. Murphy, L. p.

Quest. are there any Appeals[?]

Ans. none.

Young McLemon[s] Character Examined. Ap[p]roved. and License [re]new'd. Corben Judd char. E[x]amined and License renewed[?] to Ext'r. Dial Davis Char. Examined, ap[p]roved and License Renewed. Christian Shingles Character Examined and License Renewed. David Owens Character Examined, ap[p]roved and License Renewed.

Young McLemon came forward Recommended by the Society at Stringfields of which he is [a] member, for License to preach the Gospel. after proper Examination as to his gifts and Usefulness, Conference granted him License to preach.

Daniel M. Murphy came forward with a Recommendation from the Society at Shingles to preach. after proper Examination of his gifts and Usefulness Conference





granted him License to preach. he also made application for a Recommendation to the annual Conference as a traveling preacher. after Deliberate Examination Conference Commended him as a proper person for admission into the traveling Connection. James Stringfield.

1st Quarterly Meeting for 1831 held [at] Bethel M. [H.] no Conference held as no Business [to be transacted.]

2d December, 25 day.

2d Quarterly Meeting [at] Riddles. no Conference. no Business. April 2, 1831.

3d Quarterly Meeting. no Business.

4th Quarterly Meeting at Christian Shingles, Salt Creek Circuit, September 17th day 1831. Members present, Peter Cartwright, P. E. Asahel E. Phelps, A. S. Local preachers: Wm. L. Crissey, Wm. Royal, Ex[h]orters; C. Shingles, Corben Judd, Dial Davis, A. Lapham, Steward,[s] D. Riddle, J. Constant. Class Leaders, Jacob Morgan, Hugh Covel[?]

proceeded to Business.

Question 1st are there any appeals or Complaints[?] ans. none.

2d are there any Recommendations[?]

ans. yes. Alonzo Lapham who was Recommended by the Class came before [\*\*] the Meeting [in] Conference, and after an Examination of his Gifts and Grace Conference granted him License to preach as a Local preacher. Thomas Taylor was Recommend[ed] by his Class for License to Ex[h]ort. the Conference \* \* after Considering his gifts and grace do Licence him. Jonathan Miller was also Recommended for Licence to Ex[h]ort, but Conference thought it not Expedient to Licence him.

James Stringfield, L. E. his Character Examined and ap[p]roved.

Thomas Hargiss, Young McLemon, Wm. Stallings, Wm. T. Crissey, & Wm. Royal, Local preachers Were



Severally Called, Character Exam[in]ed and ap[p]roved. [and] their Licence[s] Renewed. and Wm. Royal was Recommended to the annual Conference to Enter the traveling connection. Christian Shingles, Dial Davis, David Owen, Corben Judd, Exortrs, Character Examined, ap[p]roved and [their] Licence Renewed. James Stringfield, David Riddle, David Owen and Jacob Constant, Stewards, their Characters Examined and ap[p]roved. Resolved. That the Circuit be Devided into Stewards Destriets, and [as för] Each Steward it shall be his Duty to Visit and Lecture Each Class in his Destriect previous to the Next Q. Meeting Conference in the next year. Br[s] Wm. White, Thomas Taylor, [and] Joseph Caterline were Nominated and Elected ad[d]itional Stewards. Br. Owen being Left out—the first Q. Meeting of the En-suing year to be held at Bethel Meeting House in December, 1831.

Peter Cartwright, P. E.

Alonzo Lapham, Sct. E.

3d Quarterly Meeting Conference Cal'd [and] held for Salt Creek Circuit [at] Enoch Smiths, May th. 26. day, 1832.

Members present, Peter Cartwright, E. Wilson Pitner, C. P. James Stringfield, L. E. David Clark, L. E. Thomas Hargiss & Young McLemon, Prs. David Riddle, Joseph Carterland [?] John Roe, L.

A Recommendation from the Society at Stringfields was Laid before the Conference for John Overstreet to preach the Gospel—after a proper Examination of his Case Conference saw proper to grant him Licence to preach the Gospel.

Peter Cartwright E.

James Stringfield, Sect.

4th Quarterly Meeting held for Salt Creek Circuit [at] Christian Shingles, July 22 day, 1832.





Members present—

Peter Cartwright, P. E. Wilson Pitner, C. P. David Clark, James Stringfield, L. Elders, William T. Crissey, William Stallings, Alonzo Lapham, John Overstreet, John Shepherd, Young McLemon, Thomas Hargiss, Local preachers.—Christian Shingles, Corben Judd, Thomas Taylor, David Owen, Ex[h]orters.

Class Leaders present, Hugh Carell, Jacob Morgan.

Quest. are there any Complaints[?]

Ans. none.

Qs. 2d. are there any Ap[p]eals?

Ans. none.

Qst. 3d. were there Characters [to] attend to?

and the Characters of David Clark and James Stringfield L. E. was [examined] and Ap[p]roved, also the Characters of William T. Crissey, Alonzo Lapham, John Overstreet, John Shepherd, Young McLemon, Thomas Hargass, [and] William Stallings, Preachers, Examined. Ap[p]roved and [their] Licence[s] Renewed.

Thomas Hargass Recommended by the Q. Meeting Conference to the Annual Conference for the Office of Deacon. Wilson Pitners Character Ex'd [and] ap[p]roved, his License Renewed and [he was] Recommended to the Annual Conference for a traveling preacher. Christian Shingles, Corben Judd, Thomas Taylor [and] David Owen, Ex[h]orters, Characters Ex'd, ap[p]roved and [their] License Renewed.

Peter Cartwright, E.

James Stringfield, Stc.

1st Qr. Meeting, Salt Creek Circuit held November 4th [?] day, 1832 [at] Bethel M. H.

Members present—

Simon Peter P. E. [1?], Levi Springer, C. P. James Stringfield, L. E. Young McLemon, John Shepherd, John Overstreet, L. P. David Riddle, John Roe, Joseph Caterland, C. Leaders.



Q. st. are there any Complaints or ap[p]eals[!]

Ans. none.

The Next Qr. Meeting to be held [at] Br. Shingles the Second Saturday and Sunday in February.

James Stringfield Sec'try.

2d Q.r. Meeting Conference for Salt Creek Circuit held [at] Christian Shingles february 9th day, 1833.

Members present. Simon Peter, P. E. [!], Levi Springer, A. Sp. David Clark, L. E. Young McLemon, William T. Crissey, John Shepherd, John Overstreet, Alonzo Lapham Local P'rs.—Joseph Catterland, Corben Judd, Thomas Taylor, Christian Shingles, Ex[h]orters. Jacob Morgan, Hugh Carell, Wm. White, Stewards.

[Q.] are there any Complaints or Ap[p]eals[!]

ans. none.

Simon Peter[!]

James Stringfield, Sec.ty

Q.r. Meeting held Salt Creek Circuit in town of Decatur [!], may 4th [!] day, 1833.

Members present. Simon Peter, E. Levi Springer, A. P. Wm. T. Crissey, L. P. Alo[n]zo Lapham, C. P. David Owen Ex[h]orter.

Q. 1. are there any Complaints or ap[p]eals[!]

Ans. the Case of Thomas S. Taylor was Refer[r]ed to this Qr. Meeting Conference by the preacher having the Charge and T. S. Taylor not being Ready for trial the [case] by the Vote of Conference was laid over to the Ensuing Qr. Meeting.—Henry Dement was Elected Steward for Salt Creek Circuit.

Simon Peter, P. E.

James Stringfield, Sect.

4th Qr. Meeting Conference held, Salt Creek Circuit [at] Christian Shingles, August 5 day 1833.

Members present.—Levi Springer, Circuit P. Young McLemon, John Shepard, John Overstreet, Elo[n]zo





Lapham, Local Prs. David Clark, L. E. Christian Shingles, Joseph Catterland, Corban Judd, Ex[h]orters. the ————[?] Examined and ap[p]roved.

Q. are there any Complaints[?] none.

ans. none.

are there any ap[p]eals[?]

ans. the Case of Thomas S. Taylor tried from an ap[p]eal and his Licence taken from him and he [was] set back on trial.

Levi Springer, C. P.

1st Qr. Meeting held Athans Circuit, Bethel M. H. November, 9th day, 1833. Members present, Simon Peter, P. E. E. Medcalf, C. P. James Stringfield, L. E. John Overstreet, John Shepard, L. Prs. David Riddle, John Roe, C. Lrs. Qst. are there any Complaints or Ap[p]eals[?] ans. none.—When and Where [will we hold] our Next Qr. Meeting[?] Ans. [at] Br. Riddles the Second Saturday and Sunday in february [1834].

Simon Peter, P. E.

James Stringfield, Sect.

[With the foregoing I find a single sheet with this title written on the back, viz: "Papers of the Journal of Qr. Conferences and Stewards Record of Salt Creek Circuit." It contains on the opposite side the following accounts, etc.:

"Moneys Collected on Salt Creek Circuit for the first quarter."

Stringfields Class .....	\$1.00
fancy Creek Br. Hussey[?] .....	1.00
Br. Riddles Class .....	2.75
Shinkles .....	1.7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> [?]
Rutherford .....	1.25[?]
.....	1.00
—[?]Collection .....	\$8.78 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> [?]



appropriated as follows, viz.

P. Cartwright ,expenses.....	12½
Wm. L. Deneen, expenses.....	25.
P. Cartwrights quarterage.....	2.75
Wm. L. Deneen's quarterage.....	5.66¼

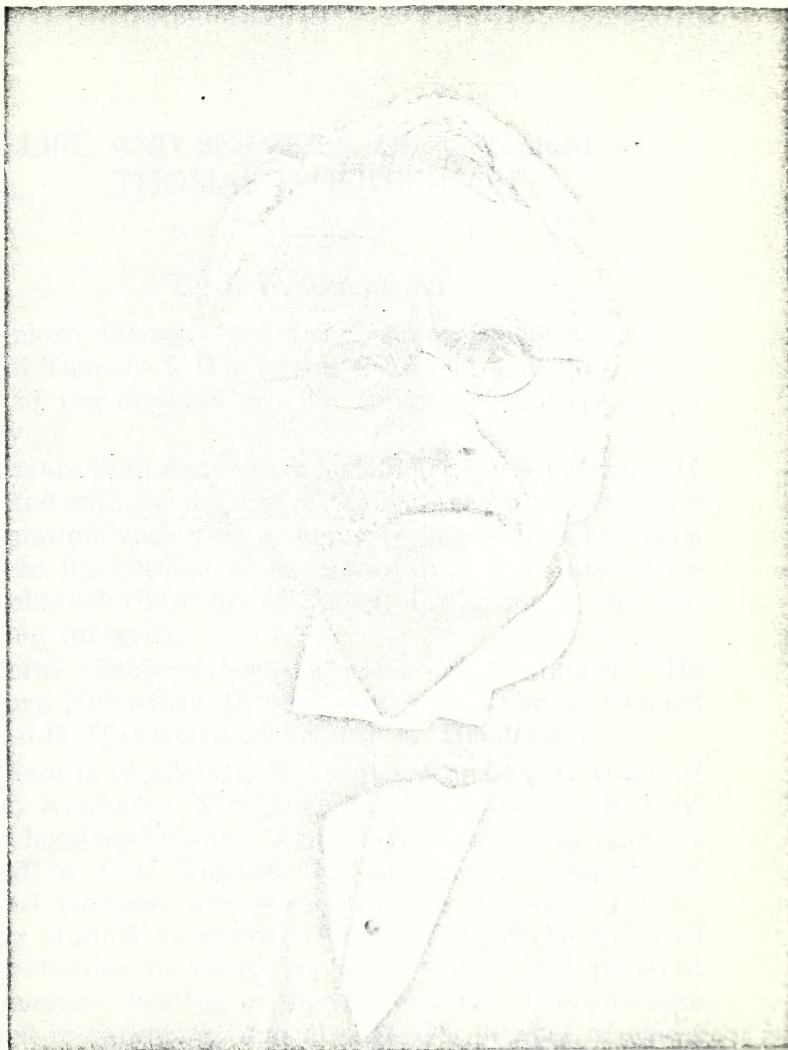
N. B.—In copying the foregoing I have endeavored to follow the original spelling as nearly as possible. The abbreviation C. P. is for Circuit Preacher, P. E. Presiding Elder; L. E. Local Elder; L. P. Local Preacher; M. H. Meeting House; C. L. Class Leader; Br. Brother; Ext. Exhorter, etc., etc. I do not know the meaning of the abbreviation A. S. It seems that either Cartwright or his Recording Steward was sometimes disposed to be facetious, as appears from the signatures "Simon Peter" P. E., etc.

MILLO CUSTER.

Bloomington, Ill., Mar. 24, 1911.







THOMAS J. HENDERSON.



## LIFE AND SERVICES OF GENERAL THOMAS J. HENDERSON.

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By J. W. Templeton.

No more fitting place for a biographical sketch of General Thomas J. Henderson could be found than in the pages of the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society.

For more than sixty years he had been in some capacity connected with the making of the history of the State and of the nation, and in every capacity in which he had been called to the service of the State or nation, his labors were characterized by efficiency, faithfulness and unswerving integrity.

General Henderson was a native of Tennessee. He was born November 29, 1824, and was a son of Colonel William H. Henderson and Sarah M. Henderson.

William H. Henderson, his father, was born in Garrard county, Kentucky, November 16, 1793, and there spent his boyhood and youth. At the age of nineteen years he enlisted in Col. Richard M. Johnson's regiment of mounted riflemen, and served during the war of 1812. Having studied surveying, for some years he followed that profession in his native state, and in 1823 removed to Tennessee, locating in Stewart county. There he also engaged in surveying, and also filled a number of offices of honor and trust. He served as sheriff of his county, and later, when he removed to Haywood county, was elected to the state senate, which position he resigned in 1836, to remove to Illinois. He was the first register of deeds of Haywood county, in which Brownsville is lo-





cated, and there recorded the first deed the same year in which Thomas J. Henderson, his son, was born.

On coming to Illinois, William H. Henderson located in Putnam county, now Stark county, on a farm, but his business tact and abilities were soon recognized by the people, and two years after his arrival he was elected a member of the Legislature, in 1838, and in the winter of 1838-39 met with that body in its last session at Vandalia, and where he was associated with Lincoln, Edwards and other notable men. He also served in the first session of the Legislature meeting at Springfield, in the winter of 1840-41. While a member of that body he was instrumental in the creation and organization of Stark county. In 1842 he was a candidate on the Whig ticket for Lieutenant Governor, but was defeated. In 1845 he moved to Johnson county, Iowa, where he purchased and operated a large farm. His death occurred January 27, 1864, at the age of seventy-one years.

The boyhood of General Henderson was spent in his native state, and until eleven years of age he attended the common schools and the male academy at Brownsville, Tenn., and during the last year commenced the study of law. With his father's family he went to Stark county, where he attended the pioneer schools of that locality. Nine years later he again went with the family to Johnson county, Iowa, where he entered the State University at Iowa City and spent one term. Prior to this, however, he had taught country schools more than a year. On leaving the university he returned to Stark county, and taught the first term of school in a building just erected for that purpose at Toulon. He then clerked in a store for nearly a year, and in the fall of 1847 was elected clerk of the county commissioner's court of Stark county, and served as such until the office was changed to that of clerk of the county court, to which office he was elected and served until 1853. While discharging the duties of these offices, which were not very arduous at



that time, he continued his law studies, and in 1852 passed an examination and was admitted to practice. On the expiration of his term as clerk, in 1853, he opened an office in Toulon and commenced the practice of his chosen profession.

In those days law and politics seemed to go hand in hand, and in 1854 Mr. Henderson was elected a member of the Illinois Legislature and served in that capacity a term of two years. In 1856 he was elected to the State Senate and at that time was the youngest member of that body. Those were exciting times. The Whig party had ceased to exist, and the newly organized Republican party had sprung into existence. As an anti-Nebraska man, Gen. Henderson was elected to the House, but as a Republican he was later elected to the Senate. The celebrated Kansas-Nebraska act had been passed. The southern states were attempting to force slavery upon the newly organized territories, and the North, much against its will, was forced to recognize the great power wielded by the South, and the fact that that section was determined to have its way regardless of consequences. In this political fight General Henderson entered heart and soul.

The election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 furnished the pretext for the southern states to carry out their threats. Secession acts were passed and the war for the preservation of the Union was begun. In almost every school house in Stark county, General Henderson addressed his fellow citizens, urging enlistments and pleading with all to stand by the administration and the Union.

In the summer of 1862, when the call came for 300,000 more, Mr. Henderson determined to enlist, and at once took the field and soon succeeded in raising a company, which became a part of the One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Assembling in camp, by permission of Governor Yates, the regiment was permitted to elect its colonel, and Mr. Henderson re-





ceived the unanimous vote for the office. On the 22nd of September, 1862, the regiment was mustered into service and immediately ordered to the front. Its record for nearly three years following is a part of the history of that great struggle. In the campaigns through Georgia and Tennessee, the One Hundred and Twelfth was ever at the front, its colonel winning the good will of his superior officers for his conscientious discharge of every duty devolving upon him. "Always hopeful, always prompt, always courageous, a most loyal subordinate, and a most able and devoted leader," was the record given him by Major General J. D. Cox, under whom he long served. At the battle of Resaca, Georgia, May 14, 1864, he was severely wounded and lay in a hospital for some time, after which he was granted a furlough and came home to recuperate. Returning to his regiment, the Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, was organized for him, and he was assigned to its command. As commander of this brigade, he served until the close of the war, being brevetted a brigadier general for gallant conduct during the campaign in Georgia and Tennessee, and especially at the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, the commission dating November 30, 1864.

The war over, the regiment being mustered out of service, General Henderson returned to his home in Toulon, Stark county, and quietly resumed the practice of law. There he remained until March, 1867, when he moved to Princeton and formed a partnership with the late Joseph I. Taylor in the practice of his profession, which was continued until 1871. At this time the General was appointed by President Grant as United States collector of internal revenue for the fifth Illinois district, with headquarters at Peoria. During the two years he was connected with that office he collected and turned over to the general government more than nine million dollars.

In 1868, General Henderson was one of the presidential electors for the state at large, and cast his vote for Gen-





eral Grant. In 1870, he unsuccessfully sought the nomination for Congress, and in 1874 was nominated and elected a member of the Forty-fourth Congress from the sixth district. During that term he served on the railways, canals and pension committees; in the Forty-fifth Congress he served on claims; in the Forty-sixth, on commerce; in the Forty-seventh he was chairman of the committee on military affairs; in the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses he served on the committee on rivers and harbors; in the Fifty-first he was chairman of the committee on rivers and harbors; and in the Fifty-second and Fifty-third he served on rivers and harbors, and also on banking and currency. For eight years he served as a member from the sixth district and for twelve years from the seventh. After each term he was renominated by acclamation. In all General Henderson served the people faithfully and well for twenty years. His greatest service as a member of Congress, as he regarded it, was rendered as a member of the committees on commerce and on rivers and harbors, in the improvement of the waterways of the country, and his principal achievement was the securing of the construction of the Hennepin canal, and this is a movement of which he may well be proud. A man more honest and devoted to the best interests of his constituents never entered the halls of Congress, and those that knew him best do not hesitate to say that he was in every respect a noble type of American manhood. For twenty years he was one of the most popular of the soldier statesmen in Congress, and his name stands for honesty, integrity and everything that is good in politics and public life. No man in Bureau county in the past twenty years has stood nearer the hearts of the people.

General Henderson was one of the last of the civil war statesmen, who knew and enjoyed the friendship and confidence of Lincoln. In the early days of his long political career, he was intimately associated with the future





president and while a member of the Illinois Legislature, before the breaking out of the war, he was privileged to do many favors for Lincoln, including a loyal support of his candidacy for the United States Senate in 1854.

In the later years of his life, when the incidents of those stirring days preceding and during the civil war had become invested with the glory which history weaves about the worthy deeds of men, the General entertained a just pride in his association with the men and affairs of the war times, and his most treasured possessions were those which were linked with the hallowed memory of Lincoln and the war. Among these was a series of letters written to him and to his father, William H. Henderson, by Lincoln, referring to Lincoln's candidacy for the senatorship and the faithful allegiance accorded him by the Princeton statesman. Most of the letters are still preserved in the family records of the Henderson family, two of which are reproduced together with this article.

#### LINCOLN LETTERS.

One of the Lincoln letters carefully preserved by General Henderson, is one in which Lincoln solicited his vote when a candidate for the office of United State Senator, in 1854. At that time General Henderson was a member of the Illinois Legislature. The letter is as follows:

"Springfield, Ill., Nov. 27, 1854.

"T. J. Henderson, Esq.

"My Dear Sir:—It has come around that a Whig may, by possibility, be elected to the United States Senate and I want the chance of being the man. You are a member of the Legislature and have a vote to give. Think it over and see whether you can do better than to go for me.

"Write me at all events and let this be confidential.

"Yours truly,

"A. LINCOLN."



Springfield, Ill. Feb 21. 1855  
Hon. W. H. Henderson.

My dear Sir:

Your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> covering a lot of old deeds was received a few days ago - Milton says he has the ones but can not lay his hand upon it easily, and can not take time to make a thorough search, until he shall have gone to & returned from Chicago - So I lay the papers by, and wait -

The election is over, the session is ended and I am ~~not~~ Senator. I have to content myself with the honor of having been the first choice of a large majority of the fifty-two members who finally made the election. My larger number of friends have to persuade to I should smaller number, in order to prevent the election of Brewster, which would have been a Douglas victory. I started with 44 votes & T. with 5. It was rather hard for the 44 to have to swim over to the 5. and a less good humor man than I, perhaps would not have consented to it - and it would not have been done without my consent - I could not, however, let the whole political result go to ruin, on a point purely personal to myself -

Your poor kindly and finely stored by me for first to last, and for which he has my everlasting gratitude -

Your friend & true  
A. Lincoln





The following letter was written by Lincoln to General Henderson's father and tells of the loyal support given him by the General in his candidacy for the Senatorship:

"Springfield, Ill., Feb. 21, 1855.

"Hon. W. H. Henderson,

"My Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 4th, covering a lot of old deeds was received only two days ago. Welton says he has the order but can not lay his hand upon it easily and can not take time to make a thorough search until he shall have gone to and returned from Chicago. So I lay the papers by and wait.

"The election is over, the session is ended and I am not Senator. I have to content myself with the honor of having been the first choice of a large majority of the fifty-one members who finally made the election. My larger number of friends had to surrender to Trumbull's smaller number, in order to prevent the election of Matteson, which would have been a Douglas victory. I started with 44 votes & T. with 5. It is rather hard for the 44 to have to surrender to the 5 and a less good humored man than I. perhaps, would not have consented to it,—and it would not have been done without my consent. I could not, however, let the whole political result go to swan, on a point merely personal to myself.

"Your son kindly and firmly stood by me from first to last and for which he has my everlasting gratitude.

"Your friend as ever,

"A. LINCOLN."

General Henderson was invited by the Lincoln Club of Newark, N. J., to deliver an address at a banquet in celebration of Lincoln's birthday. 1911, and before being taken sick had began the preparation of an address for the occasion. The manuscript copy of the speech was afterwards found in a pocket of his overcoat, and like a message from the grave it was read at the banquet.



A part of this address is given here as of great historic value.

"But it was my good fortune, Mr. President, to begin my political life under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln, and to have been somewhat actively and I may say, intimately associated with him, first, as a Whig, and then as a Republican, in the politics of Illinois, from my early manhood until he was elected President of the United States in 1860.

"I have here tonight a letter, in his own handwriting, written to me December 12, 1847, from Washington, when he was a member of Congress and I was but 23 years of age.

"In this letter, he says: 'It is my intention to snatch a moment now and then, to send documents to some friends, out of my district, among whom I shall place Captain Butler and yourself.'

"It was my good fortune, I have always thought, to have known Abraham Lincoln, personally, from my boyhood. I well remember the day and the occasion, when I saw him for the first time. It was in the month of June, 1840, at an immense Whig mass convention, held in Springfield, Ill., where Mr. Lincoln then resided, during the presidential campaign of that year, when General William Henry Harrison was the Whig candidate for President and Martin VanBuren the Democratic candidate.

"This convention brought together an immense gathering of the Whigs, and especially of the leading prominent Whigs, from all points of the State, from Chicago to Cairo, and from the Wabash river to the Mississippi. They came by delegations, in wagons, and in carriages, on horseback and on foot. They came with music and with banners. They brought log cabins, built on wheels, and drawn by oxen, from long distances, with a barrel on one end of the cabin marked, 'Hard Cider,' and with coon skins nailed on the logs. It was called the 'Log Cabin





Hard Cider and Coon Skin Campaign' as an opprobrium, by the Democrats.

"That, I think, was the first political convention I ever saw, and my father, who had served in the war of 1812 under General Harrison, took me and a younger brother with him; and the delegation that went from the county, in which he lived, to attend it. My father, like Mr. Lincoln, was born in Kentucky, and like Mr. Lincoln, was a Clay Whig. They were then both of them representatives in our State Legislature, and warm personal friends, and my father introduced me to Mr. Lincoln, who gave me a very cordial and kind greeting, and at that great political assemblage was the first time I ever saw Abraham Lincoln.

"There were many leading, prominent Whig speakers of Illinois, able and eloquent speakers, who were present at that great mass convention; among them were S. Lyle Smith, of Chicago, said to have been one of the most eloquent speakers in the State; Edward D. Baker and Abraham Lincoln, of Springfield; Rev. John Hogan, I think of Alton; John J. Hardin, of Jacksonville; Ben Bond, of Carlyle, and Fletcher Webster, a son of Daniel Webster, then quite a young man, living at Peru. I heard all of these men I have named, speak at that convention, and while I was too young, of course, to judge of the ability of these speakers, or the merit of the speeches, delivered by them, the impressions made upon my mind from what was said of them by my father and others were, that all of them, even Fletcher Webster, who was then a young man and not accustomed to public speaking, and had to be urged to speak, made able and interesting speeches, and many of them great speeches.

'Mr. Lincoln was not then so prominent as a speaker as some of the others, especially S. Lyle Smith, Edward D. Baker and John J. Hardin, who were noted for their ability and eloquence as speakers, but he was among the foremost, and was rapidly coming to the front, as a man





of ability and as a speaker of great force. In fact six months before this great mass convention was held in December, 1839, Mr. Lincoln had participated in a political discussion in the hall of the House of Representatives at Springfield, Ill., with such men as Stephen A. Douglas, Josiah Lamborn and others, Mr. Lamborn was either then or had been, as I remember, attorney general of the State, and was a very able lawyer.

"This was not a joint political debate. Individual speakers made political speeches on the political issues of the campaign, just opening, on different days. Stephen A. Douglas made the first speech on one day; then Josiah Lamborn followed Mr. Douglas on another day and made the second speech, both speeches on the Democratic side. And then on another day, Abraham Lincoln made a speech on the Whig side, replying to Mr. Douglas and Mr. Lamborn, which was of so much ability and force that when the Legislature met, the Whig members had the speech printed in pamphlet form as a campaign document, and when my father came home from Springfield he brought a number of copies of the speech with him, and attracted as I was, by the eloquent peroration of Mr. Lincoln's speech, although but a boy, I preserved a copy of the speech and committed the peroration to memory. And I recited it in a speech which I made at a ratification meeting in Kewanee, Ill., either on the day of Mr. Lincoln's nomination for President of the United States, in 1860, or on the day following his nomination. Some years ago I brought with me to Washington City the copy of this old speech, which I had preserved and still keep, and at his request, I permitted John G. Nicolay to copy and publish it in one of the last volumes of his and John Hay's life of Lincoln.

"If I had not preserved this pamphlet copy of Mr. Lincoln's speech, when a boy, I have good reason to believe the speech would have been lost, for a few years ago at the request of some friends, I had a reprint of the





speech made by Gibson & Sons, in Washington, and presented a copy of it to John Hay, then Secretary of State of the United States, and when I did so, I asked him the question, whether he or John Nicolay in their researches for material for the life and speeches of Abrahám Lincoln, had found any other copy of the speech than the one I permitted them to copy and publish, and he said, no, they never found any other copy.

“I have a copy of the reprint of this speech here, and shall take pleasure in presenting it to the president of your club, and any of the members who may wish to examine it, will, I believe, find it to be an able, argumentative and logical speech, showing great familiarity with public affairs, and with the political issues of the presidential campaign in 1840, and discussing them with great ability and clearness, and the speech was, as I think, a full and complete answer to the speeches of Mr. Douglas and Mr. Lamborn, and Mr. Lincoln was not then thirty-one years of age.

“I have not time this evening to comment on the ability of this speech as I would be glad to do, but as I have alluded to the closing part of the speech, will quote what he said, and in his own language. He said:

“ ‘Mr. Lamborn insists that the difference between the VanBuren party and the Whigs is, that although the former sometimes err in practice they are always correct in principle, whereas the latter are always wrong in principle, and the better to impress this proposition, he uses a figurative expression in these words, ‘The Democrats are vulnerable in the heel, but they are sound in the head and the heart.’ The first branch of the figure, that is, that the Democrats are vulnerable in the heel, I admit is not merely figuratively but literally true. Who that looks but for a moment at their Swarthouts, their Prices, their Harringtons, and their hundreds of others, scampering away with the public money to Texas, to Europe, and to every spot of the earth, where a villian may hope to find



refuge from justice can at all doubt that they are most distressingly affected in their heels, with a species of 'running itch.'

" 'It seems that this malady of their heels operates on these sound headed and honest-hearted creatures, very much like the cork leg in the comic song did on its owner, which, when he had once got started on it, the more he tried to stop it, the more it would run away. At the hazard of wearing this point threadbare, I will relate an anecdote, which seems too strikingly in point to be omitted. A witty Irish soldier, who was always boasting of his bravery, when no danger was near, but who invariably retreated without orders at the first charge of an engagement, being asked by his captain why he did so, replied, 'Captain, I have as brave a heart as Julius Caesar ever had, but somehow or other, whenever danger approaches, my cowardly legs will run away with it.' So with Mr. Lamborn's party, they take the public money into their hand for the most laudable purposes that wise heads and honest hearts can dictate, but before they can possibly get it out again, their rascally 'vulnerable heels' will run away with them.

" 'Seriously, this proposition of Mr. Lamborn's is nothing more or less than a request that his party may be tried by their profession, instead of their practices. Perhaps no position that the party assumes is more liable to or more deserving of exposure than this very modest request, and nothing but the unwarrantable length to which I have already extended these remarks, forbids me now attempting to expose it, for the reason given, I pass it by.

" 'I shall advert to but one more point.'

"And then follows the peroration which attracted my attention, and led me, as a boy, but sixteen years of age, to preserve a copy of this great speech, which I did, and thus prevented it from being lost.





“ ‘Mr. Lamborn refers to the late elections in the states, and from their results confidently predicts that every state in the Union will vote for Mr. VanBuren at the next presidential election. Address that argument to cowards and to knaves; with the free and the brave it will effect nothing. It may be true; if it must, let it. Many free countries have lost their liberty, and ours may lose hers, but if she shall, be it my proudest plume, not that I was the last to desert, but that I never deserted her. I know that the great volcano at Washington, aroused and directed by the evil spirit that reigns there, is belching forth the laws of political corruption in a current broad and deep, which is sweeping with frightful velocity over the whole length and breadth of the land, bidding fair to leave unscathed no given spot, or living thing, while on its bosom are riding like demons on the waves of hell, the imps of that evil spirit, and fiendishly taunting all those who dare resist its destroying course, with the hopelessness of their effort, and knowing this I can not deny that all may be swept away. Broken by it, I, too, may be; bow to it, I never will. The probability that we may fall in the struggle, ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just; it shall not deter me. If ever I feel the soul within me elevate and expand to those dimensions, not wholly unworthy of its Almighty Architect, it is when I contemplate the cause of my country, deserted by all the world beside, and I standing up boldly and alone and hurling defiance at her victorious oppressor. Here without contemplating consequences before High Heaven, and in the face of the world, I swear eternal fidelity to the just cause, as I deem it, of the land of my life, my liberty and my love. And who that thinks with me will not fearlessly adopt the oath that I take? Let none falter, who thinks he is right, and we may succeed. But if after all we shall fail, be it so. We still shall have the proud consolation of saying to our consciences, and to the departed shades of our country's



freedom, that the cause approved of our judgment, and adored of our hearts, in disaster, in chains, in torture, in death, we never faltered in defending.'

"I doubt if a more eloquent outburst of pure, exalted patriotism, love of one's own land and country, and devotion to duty and to principle was ever uttered by any other man in all the world's history. And was not this love of country, this devotion to duty and to principle exhibited in all the acts of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States, in his heroic and patriotic efforts to maintain and preserve the government of his country, and suppress the rebellion and that from the very day of his election until his assassination, it seems so to me, he never faltered, he never wavered for one moment in his duty, 'that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.'

"But to refer again for a moment to the Whig mass convention held in Springfield, Ill., in June, 1840, it had seemed to me rather a remarkable incident that four of the distinguished Whig speakers, whom I have mentioned as making speeches at that convention, and whose speeches I heard as a boy should afterwards have been killed in war, when in the service of their country. John J. Hardin, who had been a member of Congress and who was colonel of an Illinois regiment, in the war with Mexico, was killed when in command of his regiment at the battle of Buena Vista, Edward D. Baker, who also had been a member of Congress and a colonel of an Illinois regiment in the war with Mexico, and at the time of his death was a United States Senator from the state of Oregon, and also a general in the Union army, was killed at Ball's Bluff in the state of Virginia during the civil war; Fletcher Webster, son of Daniel Webster, who had gone back to his native state, Massachusetts, was killed at the head of his regiment at the second battle of Bull Run, in the civil war. And Abraham Lincoln, whose name and fame are now immortal and imperishable, was assas-





minated in April, 1865, when President of the United States, just as the measure of his fame seemed full, and peace was dawning upon our war stricken land, and the preservation of the Union for which he had labored and struggled, and given all strength of his masterly ability, seemed well assured."

General Henderson was taken ill while in Washington in attendance upon a meeting of the Board of Ordnance, of which he was a member, and died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Farnsworth, Sunday, February 5, 1911. His remains were brought to Princeton, Ill., for burial.

Some of the soldiers of his old regiment, the 112th Illinois; some of those who had been his devoted followers during his active political career; some of the few surviving pioneer residents of Stark, Henry, Putnam and Bureau counties gathered at his last resting place and sorrowfully paid their last tribute to one who as a soldier, as a statesman or as a citizen was worthy of the salutation, "Well done, good and faithful servant."



## HON. JAMES H. MILLER.

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TO WHOSE INITIATIVE AND LABORS IN THE ILLINOIS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY MUST BE LARGELY CREDITED THE CREATION OF  
THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY.

By William R. Sandham, Wyoming, Ill.

The Illinois State Historical Society is doing a great amount of good work and a kind that will be greatly appreciated as time goes on. Among some of the most important is the publication of the papers on the "Forgotten Statesmen of Illinois." It is a work that is highly commendable and should be continued as it doubtless will be.

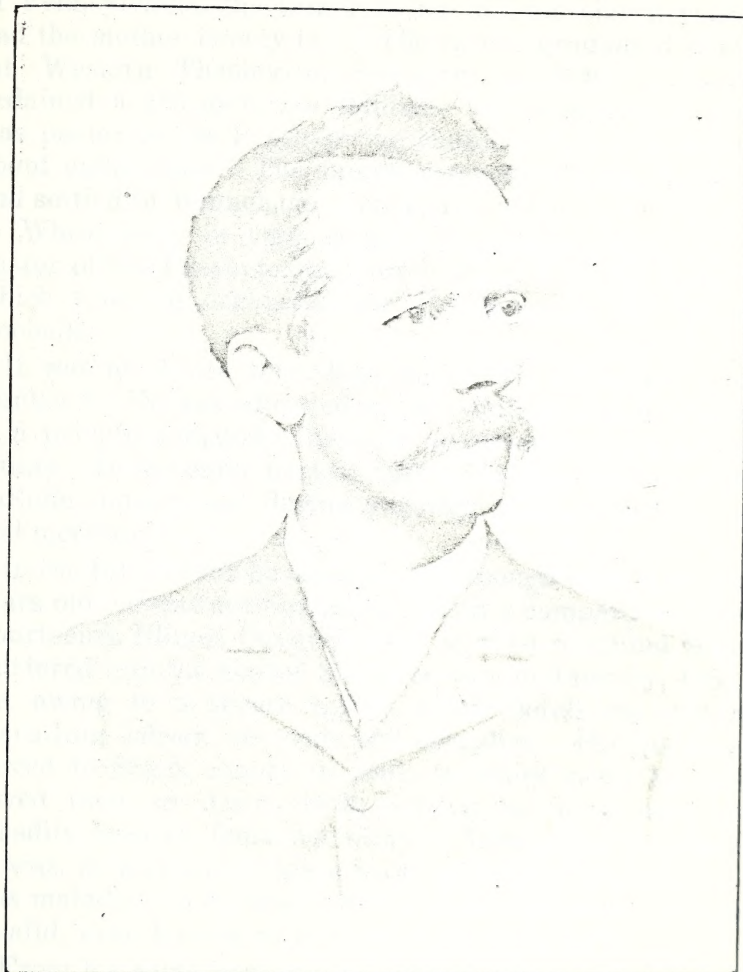
Though a statesman may do some noble work which is a benefit to the State and country, he is very soon forgotten and only the result of his work lives. The man remains forgotten unless a record of him and his work be made by the State Historical Society.

To rescue from forgetfulness the life record of Hon. James H. Miller, who was "the gentleman from Stark county" in the Illinois House of Representatives from January 7, 1885, to the time of his death, June 27, 1890, is the object of this paper, and to put it on record in the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, so that all who are interested in our State history now and hereafter, may learn and remember something of the man who laid the foundation of the Illinois State Historical Library, which led to the organization of the Illinois State Historical Society.

James Hughes Miller was born at Marsailles, Wyandotte county, Ohio, August 29, 1843. His parents were







JAMES H. MILLER.



Allen Cowen and Mary Pierson Miller, who were natives of Pennsylvania, the father living in Ohio eleven years and the mother twenty-five. The father graduated from the Western Theological Seminary in 1840 and was ordained a Presbyterian minister the same year. He was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Marseilles for about eight years. The family came to Illinois in 1851 and settled in Winnebago county, and a year later moved to White Rock in Ogle county, where the father was pastor of the Presbyterian church for nine years, during which time he organized the Presbyterian church at Rochelle.

It was at White Rock that James H. Miller grew to manhood. He was educated in the public school and later at a private collegiate institute at Mendota, in LaSalle county. In the early part of 1861 he became a teacher in LaSalle county, and during vacation time clerked for a coal merchant.

In the fall of 1862 he enlisted, and though only nineteen years old, he was authorized to recruit a company for the Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry. The men he recruited were mustered into the United States service in January, 1863, but owing to a severe injury which befell the young recruiting officer, he was not accepted. His parents moved to Stark county in 1861, to which place he followed them in April, 1863, hoping by home care to speedily recover from his injury. Instead of recovery he was, as a result of his injury, attacked with that serious malady, hip disease. For over six years he was an invalid, even having to use crutches up to 1869.

From his early boyhood Mr. Miller was a worker, and to satisfy his great desire to be doing something during his illness he studied law. The interest and knowledge which this study gave him led to his taking up the vocation of a lawyer for his life work. He was licensed to practice law by the Illinois State Supreme Court in the spring of 1869, and soon after opened an office in Toulon,





the county seat of Stark county, and immediately entered into a good practice.

In the early part of 1872 he was appointed State's Attorney for Stark county to fill a vacancy, and on November 5th of that year he was elected to that office for the full term of four years. Later he was the attorney for the village of Toulon for several years.

At the election in November, 1884, Mr. Miller was elected one of the members of the Illinois House of Representatives from the district composed of Bureau, Putnam and Stark counties. He entered on his legislative duties January 7, 1885, and soon took a leading rank in the Illinois General Assembly. He was made a member of the following committees: Judiciary, Judicial Department, and Elections. He was also a member of the Republican Steering Committee, during that memorable campaign which resulted in the election of Hon. John A. Logan to the United States senate. It was during this session of the Illinois General Assembly that there was passed the first law relating to elections in Chicago. At the request of the Chicago Citizens' Association, Mr. Miller was selected to push its passage through the House of Representatives. The Chicago Legal News of May 1, 1886, had the following to say of his work for the law: "Among the men who aided in the passage of the new election law, none are entitled to more credit than Hon. James H. Miller, of Toulon, for his disinterested efforts put forth in its behalf. By vote, speech and influence he did all in his power to secure its passage. He made the strongest and most eloquent argument in the House in favor of its passage. When the act became a law and its validity was assailed in the State Supreme Court, he followed it there, and without hope of fee or reward, he made a strong and eloquent appeal to the Court in its behalf."

In November, 1886, Mr. Miller was again elected a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, and



took his seat January 5, 1887. He took even a more active part in this 35th General Assembly than he did in the 34th. As the record made in the House Journal of that session shows, the work of no member was more efficient than his. He was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee, a place next to the Speaker, the most important in the Illinois House of Representatives. He was also a member of the following committees: Federal Relations, Fees and Salaries, State and Municipal Indebtedness, and several important special committees.

In November, 1888, Mr. Miller was elected for the third time a member of the Illinois House of Representatives. He took his seat January 9, 1889, and for a second time was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and a member of the following committees: Rules, Claims, Municipal and State Indebtedness. On February 13, 1889, on account of the absence of the Speaker, he was appointed temporary Speaker for three days. On May 10, 1889, on account of the resignation of Speaker Asa C. Matthews, Mr. Miller was elected Speaker for the remainder of the term.

When Mr. Miller was first elected a member of the Illinois General Assembly in 1884, he began the study of parliamentary law and continued to study it until the time he was elected Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives. This, with his good knowledge of human nature, enabled him to fulfill the arduous duties of the office to which he was now elected with ability and impartiality.

Soon after Mr. Miller assumed his active duties as a legislator he became deeply interested in Illinois history and this interest continued to grow to the time of his death. The writer of this paper became interested in Illinois history about the same time, and began the study of it so as to be able to tell something about it to the boys and girls in the schools which I was then visiting every





day. Whenever we met we compared notes. It was not long before we came to the conclusion that the great need of students of Illinois history was a State historical library located at Springfield. Mr. Miller became very enthusiastic over the idea, and as a result he formulated the following bill, which he introduced in the House of Representatives February 16, 1889:

WHEREAS, It is important and desirable that all books, pamphlets and other printed matter, manuscripts, monographs and other writings, illustrative and descriptive of the history of the State, be collected and preserved in some permanent form, before it is too late to rescue from oblivion the memory of its earlier history, and those who founded it, as well as those who have been connected with its rise and progress in later days, therefore,

*AN ACT to establish the Illinois State Historical Library, and to provide for its care and maintenance, and to make appropriations therefor.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:* That there is hereby established at the capital of the State, a historical library, which shall be known as the "Illinois State Historical Library."

§ 2. The north ante-room of the State library rooms in the State House shall be set apart for the use of the State historical library, and free access thereto at all reasonable hours shall be forever had and maintained.

§ 3. The Illinois State historical library shall be under the control and management of three trustees well versed in the history of the State, and qualified by habit and disposition to discharge the duties of their office, who shall be chosen and appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate, for the term of two years, and until their successors have been appointed and commissioned. The said trustees shall receive no



compensation for their services, except for their actual expenses while in the discharge of their official duties, to be paid upon itemized accounts approved by the Governor.

§ 4. The said trustees shall have power, and they are hereby required to make all necessary rules, regulations and by-laws not inconsistent with law, to carry into effect the purposes of this act, and to procure from time to time, as may be possible and practicable at reasonable cost, all books, pamphlets, manuscripts, monographs, writings and other materials of historical interest and useful to the historian, bearing upon the political, physical, religious or social history of the state of Illinois from the earliest known period of time. They shall also have the power to select some person having the requisite qualifications as librarian and to fix the salary, not, however, to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars per annum.

§ 5. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars per annum is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the Auditor is authorized to draw his warrant therefor, payable to the order of the trustees of the "Illinois State Historical Library," upon proper vouchers, approved by the Governor.

The bill was referred to the Committee on History, Geology and Science. This committee, on March 7, 1889, recommended that the bill do pass. It was then referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and on April 18, 1889, this committee recommended that the bill do pass. On May 7, 1889, the bill was passed by the House, the vote being 86 for and 19 against its passage. The bill was passed by the Senate May 22, and became a law by the signature of the Governor, May 25, 1889.

Mr. Miller planned during his second term in the General Assembly to introduce a bill in the House for the





creation of a State historical library, but he found that there was too much opposition to overcome among the members of the House. Even when the bill was introduced the opposition was very strong.

Of all the bills introduced by Mr. Miller while a member of the General Assembly, the State Historical Library bill was the one for which he cared the most and the one for which he worked the hardest to make it become a law. By this time he had become a man of considerable influence in the General Assembly, and he used this influence for all it was worth in behalf of the State Historical Library. He wrote to every person in the State of whom he could hear as being interested in Illinois history, requesting them to ask the members of the Senate and House from their districts to vote for the bill creating a State historical library. The opposition in the Committee on Appropriations was at first quite pronounced. This Mr. Miller overcame by a personal appeal to each member of the committee and by addressing the committee as a whole. The writer was in Springfield during that time and Mr. Miller asked me to meet the committee with him and give my opinion of the need of a State historical library. After doing so in my feeble way, Mr. Miller addressed the committee, making a very effective and convincing argument, which I thought at the time and still so think, made the committee believe that the proper thing to do was to recommend that the bill do pass.

Soon after the Governor signed the bill he appointed as trustees, Judge Hiram W. Beckwith of Danville; Arthur Edwards, of Chicago, and Edward F. Leonard, of Peoria, and the trustees appointed Miss Josephine P. Cleveland, librarian. The library was started November 25, 1889, with 442 books and pamphlets relating to the history of Illinois and the Mississippi Valley, which were received from the Secretary of State. The work of gathering and systematically arranging the ma-



terial for which the library was created, was commenced immediately, and it has so successfully been carried on that at the present time there are in the library over 28,000 books and pamphlets and the number is rapidly increasing. Miss Cleveland died in November, 1897, and Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber became librarian January 1, 1898.

As a direct result of the creation of the Illinois State Historical Library, the Illinois State Historical Society was organized in May, 1899, and it also has its headquarters in Springfield, and has for its Secretary the Librarian of the State historical library.

At its session in 1903, the Illinois General Assembly passed an act which made the State historical society a department of the State historical library.

The creation of the State historical library in 1889, and the uniting with it of the State historical society in 1903, makes possible such valuable work as has been done by Prof. Evarts B. Greene and Prof. C. W. Alvord of the University of Illinois, and of Prof. Edwin E. Sparks, late of the University of Chicago, and others, which has resulted in the publication by the trustees of the State Historical Library of the valuable series of Illinois Historical Collections, among them the 600 page volume on the Lincoln and Douglas Debates.

In the early part of the year 1890, Mr. Miller was chairman of a committee of the General Assembly that went on a tour of inspection to the various penal and reformatory institutions in the eastern states. While at Huntington, Pennsylvania, he was taken with an attack of la grippe and lay seriously ill at the reformatory at that place for several weeks, and from which he recovered very slowly. In June, on account of the slow improvement of his health, he was advised by his physicians to go to the mountains in Colorado. When he started he was full of hope, but he was doomed to disappointment.





A week after his arrival at Manitou, Colorado, he was taken suddenly with hemorrhage of the lungs and died in less than an hour, June 27, 1890, aged 46 years, 9 months and 29 days. He was laid to rest beside his parents and second son in the beautiful cemetery in Toulon, which place was his home for 27 years. His greatest monument is the Illinois State Historical Library in Springfield.

Mr. Miller was married to Miss Emma M. Kearney, October 11, 1870. Mrs. Miller was a woman of high social qualities, and earnest in the higher duties of women. She died July 11, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had four sons. Wilfred D., the eldest, and Harry H., the youngest, are married and live in Toulon. The second son, Allen W., died in infancy, and the third, George G., died in April, 1900.

The following is a small part of what was said of Mr. Miller at the time of death:

Stark County Sentinel: "Mr. Miller had become a man of marked ability. His power and influence were well recognized. He was truly an eminent leader in the Republican party and in him the party has lost one of its most ardent and efficient supporters. The principles he believed to be right and true were never sacrificed for bribes or for the sake of gain."

Wyoming Post-Herald: "Mr. Miller was one of the most remarkable men Stark county has produced.

Chicago Times: "Mr. Miller was a painstaking legislator and was probably the ablest constitutional lawyer in the House of Representatives. He took pride in mastering the details of every bill recommended for passage, and if it contained a single defect he would surely detect it. He was a leader on the Republican side, but he had the highest respect of his Democratic associates."

Hon. Joseph W. Fifer, then Governor of Illinois, said: "As a member of the General Assembly Mr. Miller was a



leader among his brethren and this too, notwithstanding the fact that he was continually waging a fearful contest with an unyielding disease. In the public service he was always true to duty, never careless, negligent nor inconsiderate. He was able, conscientious and honest. In his death Illinois loses one of her worthiest sons."

The writer of this paper was intimately acquainted with Mr. Miller from 1873 to the time of his death, and during that time I never heard any one speak ill of him, and I never heard Mr. Miller speak ill of others. We often hear it said that we should say nothing but good of the dead. Mr. Miller made it a rule never to say anything but good of the living.





## AN INTERESTING LETTER.

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CENTRALIA, ILL., Feb. 18, 1911.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,

Secretary Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield, Ill.:

DEAR MADAM: While a student at the university in Chicago I had occasion to examine a reprint of one of Governor John Reynold's books. An explanatory foot note on one of the pages in the book credited Joseph Gillespie of Edwardsville with the statement that the late Colonel Nathaniel Niles of Belleville, Illinois, assisted Governor Reynolds in writing his books. I can not now quote from memory the exact words, but I think that was the substance of the statement.

I was intimately acquainted with Colonel Niles, and took the liberty to address a brief note of inquiry to him in regard to the truth of the statement. I enclose his reply, which is characteristic of the man and which speaks for itself. It may have some slight historic value and for that reason I am willing that it shall become the property of the society.

Colonel Niles was a lawyer by profession. He participated with distinction in both the Mexican and civil wars and he was also a member of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly. He was a veritable bookworm and during the later years of his life he spent all of his time in the Belleville public library.

In his old age he became a convert to the single tax theory and he talked and wrote incessantly about Henry George. It will be observed that he did not even forget



to refer to the chief apostle of his pet theory in his answer to my simple query.

Respectfully,

A. D. RODENBERG.

The interesting letter of Colonel Niles, published by permission of Mr. Rodenberg, is as follows:

BELLEVILLE ILLS

March 18th '98.

DEAR ALBERT—

I owe you an apology for my long silence after your letter. Indeed of late years I have had to begin my letters with apologies. An octogenarian I feel the weight of years and often inclined to say with Beranger

Dreams of my joyful youth I'de freely give  
Ere my lips close.  
All the dull days I'me destined yet to live  
For one of those.  
Where shall I now find raptures that were felt  
Joys that befell  
Or hopes that dawned at twenty when I dwelt  
In attic cell.

But regrets, repinings sorrows over the "ills of mortal life" are unnecessary and unworthy of a man, especially of a soldier. We must "take fortune's buffets with equal thanks." Wordsworth has some lines in his *Excursion*, a book and poem full of wisdom for youth and age, that I have often recalled but not, alas, acted upon as often—Action not thought without action is our being's end and aim. Capt Sigsbee said it is better to know than to think. The circle of the life of man says Swedenborg is to know and to understand, to will and do—"All doubt is resolved by action." Carlyle.

The lines are these

For the calamities of mortal life  
One sure and last resource exists, one only,





An assured conviction that the procession  
 Of our fate, howe'er sad or disturbed is ordered by a  
     being  
 Of infinite benevolence, and power  
 Whose everlasting purposes embrace  
 All accidents converting them to good

I have not preserved the metre.

But I intended only in this letter to correct the error which Joe Gillespie fell into in saying or writing and printing that I wrote any part or title of Gov. John Reynold's books—He did all his own writing.

He once submitted a title page of one of his books to me when I suggested a change of little or no importance which I think he adopted—His books were all his own work—He was a man of genius and much originality—*sui generis*, uncultivated, a rough diamond. He said to me after I returned home from the army "what did you come home for Why didn't you get killed? He was an unhappy copperhead. His southern birth and sympathies made him so—He couldn't help it—Please write—

Yours most truly,

N. NILES.

P. S.. Have you read Henry George?  
 read and study him by all means.



## AN ILLINOIS POET, ELIJAH WHITTIER BLAISDELL.

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E. W. Blaisdell, author of the poem "Rock River," was born at Montpelier, Vermont, July 18, 1826. His father was a printer and editor of the Vergennes Vermonter, founded by Rufus W. Griswold, author of "Poets and Poetry of America." E. W. Blaisdell succeeded his father as editor of the "Vermont" and while editor of that paper was appointed postmaster of Vergennes. He came west to Stephenson county, Illinois, in the autumn of 1853 and removed to Rockford in January, 1854, when he purchased the "Rockford Forum," which he and his brother Richard published until 1862, when he sold the paper and it was merged into the "Register." He was one of the band who met in Bloomington May 29, 1856, and organized the Republican party of Illinois. It is claimed that the "Forum," under Blaisdell was the first newspaper to hoist the name of Lincoln for president. After selling the "Forum" he engaged in the practice of law and the sale of real estate. In 1858 he was elected a member of the Illinois legislature, lower house, where he voted for Lincoln for United States Senator against Stephen A. Douglas, a native of his own state.

After retirement from active business, he gave his time to literary pursuits. Some of his productions are: "The Hidden Record," a novel; "The Rajah," a political burlesque; a drama, "Eve, the General's Daughter"; founded on incidents in the Black Hawk War. He is also the author of a volume of miscellaneous poems of some 300 pages, which were published some ten years





ago. I first saw the poem, "Rock River," in 1873, when I copied it into the Polo Press and I presume it may have been written about that time.

J. W. CLINTON.

### ROCK RIVER.

Let Erin's bards, in sweetest strains,  
The praise of "Shannon" sound;  
Let "Ayr" and "Clyde" and "Bonnie Doon"  
Still ring the wide world round;  
For me I sing, with honest pride,  
A fairer stream than either—  
I sing the praise in humble lays,  
Of Sin-nis-sip-pi river.

Than thine O Sinnis-ippi fair,  
No crystal waves are sunnier;  
Than thine, sweet river of the West,  
No banks nor braes are bonnier;  
Along thy marge the prairie rose  
'Mid lily-blooms is blushing;  
While from thy nooks and shady groves  
The oriole's song is gushing.

Now mirrored on thy clear expanse,  
The summer clouds are sailing;  
Now, round thy graceful coves and curves,  
The sunset's fires are trailing;  
The wild duck's brood—a tiny fleet—  
Within the glow is riding  
And o'er thy wave the swift-winged gull  
With glittering crest is gliding.

Nor fairy realms, nor Switzer lakes,  
Nor locks of Scotia's Highlands,  
Embosom gems more queenly fair  
Than these, thine emerald islands;



Along thy steep the woodbine creeps,  
 The wild-grape proudly twining—  
 The hues and dyes of Autumn skies  
 Upon their leaflets shining.

The drooping elms thy shores above  
 Lean lovingly above thee,  
 While from their boughs the warblers tell  
 How well and true they love thee;  
 Then let my muse thy praises sound;  
 Be mine the pleasant duty  
 To sing—though artless be the strain—  
 Thy weird and sylvan beauty.





CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED  
BY MRS. DICY R. DUNLAP.

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NOTABLE GATHERING OF DESCENDANTS AND FRIENDS OF  
MORGAN COUNTY'S OLDEST INHABITANT—FAMILY  
HISTORY IS FULL OF INTEREST.

Mrs. Dicy R. Dunlap, who has been one of the most noted characters in the life of Morgan county celebrated her 100th birthday on Feb. 10, 1911, surrounded by her relatives and friends. Although Mrs. Dunlap has rounded out the century mark, she is still hearty and hale and although it is the habit of old people to dwell in the past, she is still deeply interested in the questions of the day and has a marvelous recollection.

She was the daughter of William and Mary Runkle and was born in Champaign county, Ohio, Feb. 10, 1811. It is a notable circumstance that on the same day Stephen Dunlap, the man who was to become her husband, was born in Lexington, Ky. The Ohio home and the one in Kentucky were not many miles apart and in the course of events it happened that the young people became acquainted and May 29, 1834, their marriage was solemnized. In 1840 there came a change of residence to Jacksonville and six years later the family removed to the present home of Mrs. Dunlap. That was in 1846, so that for sixty-four years Mrs. Dunlap has been sheltered under the same roof. Mrs. Dunlap's grandparent's came from Germany. Her grandmother on the mother's side came as a child with her parents, and while the ship was making the journey both parents died. The little girl was later adopted by a family on board the



ship. The family settled in Virginia and their descendants moved to Ohio. As before mentioned, Mrs. Dunlap was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Runkle, and following her marriage the parents came to this country and subsequently moved to McDonough county, where their descendants live to-day.

Stephen Dunlap, tenth child and sixth son of the Rev. James Dunlap, was married to Dicy Dunlap in Champaign county, May 29, 1834, by the Rev. John Poerson, and died May 29, 1877. He emigrated from Ohio to Morgan county in 1840, and became a man of great influence. A staunch Democrat in 1876, he cast his last presidential ballot for Samuel J. Tilden. For eight years he served as associate judge of Morgan county. For many years he filled the office of elder in the old school Baptist church. Over six feet tall, weighing 260 pounds, he was always a commanding figure. Irvin Dunlap, the eldest son; Mrs. Mary Farrell, wife of Felix G. Farrell, the only daughter, and James M. Dunlap, were born in Champaign county, Ohio. The other three sons, William R., Stephen and Samuel W., were born in Morgan county, Illinois. After the family came to this county, Mr. Dunlap engaged in business on the north side of the square at Jacksonville. In 1846 Mr. Dunlap moved to the farm, east of Jacksonville. The land was purchased from Mr. McMurray and other tracts were acquired until Mr. Dunlap owned 1,200 or 1,500 acres.

The first of the Dunlap family in Morgan county was Rev. James Dunlap, who was born in Augusta county, Virginia, July 10, 1773, and died in Jacksonville, Feb. 28, 1866, in the ninety-third year of his age. He was the son of William Dunlap, who was born in Virginia in 1743. William Dunlap served in the revolutionary war until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis in October, 1784. The family has in its possession letters which authenticate the statement that Dunlap was on the street when Edward Payne had an altercation with George Washington,





who was then a colonel. Lossing in his *Field Notes*, says that Washington afterwards apologized handsomely to Payne. William Dunlap was the son of Prof. John Dunlap, professor of Greek in the University of Glasgow, Scotland. William had three sons, one of whom was the famous James Dunlap who went with his father's family to Kentucky when a boy. He married Emily Johnson in 1794. He moved his family to Jacksonville in 1845. At the time of his death his posterity consisted of thirteen children, six of whom were living; eighty-three grand-children, of whom forty-nine were living, 106 great-grand-children, and seven great-great-grand-children, making a total generation of 209 with 144 surviving. Millard F. Dunlap, who is president of the Ayers National bank and member of the Dunlap-Russel Banking company, is a grandson of Mrs. Dicy Dunlap. Mr. Dunlap is well known in financial circles of the State, and during the second presidential campaign of William J. Bryan for president, he was president of the State Democratic organization, and also former candidate for State treasurer on the Democratic ticket. February 10, 1911, was a day long to be remembered in the Dunlap family, and many were the tokens of esteem and love sent Mrs. Dunlap, whose life spanned five score years.



CELEBRATION, BY THE WOODFORD COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OF THE SEVEN-  
TIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FORMATION OF WOODFORD  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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Woodford county was formed Feb. 27, 1841. Our local historical society on deciding to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of this event, asked the Board of Supervisors for an appropriation of fifty dollars with which to carry out our plans for the celebration and other work the society has under contemplation. The board willingly made this appropriation. We then advertised the meeting in all the newspapers of the county and neighboring towns, requesting those living, who were residents of the territory when the county was formed, to send their names to the secretary, and also to give any items of interest they remember relating to the early history of the county. Ninety-six names were handed in, the oldest person being one hundred and two years old. The list of names was published twice before the celebration. Much to our pleasure there are more of the "charter members" of the county living than we anticipated. Doubtless there are others whom we have not reached.

February 27 was a beautiful day. A large and interested audience gathered in the Presbyterian church to help celebrate the seventieth birthday of the county. Thirty-three of the settlers of 1841 were present. Quite a number came from a distance. It was home coming to them. After enjoying a short reception in the auditorium of the church they gathered in front of the court house





where a picture was taken of them in a group. Re-assembling in the church the rest of the program was given. The invocation was pronounced by Rev. D. W. McMillin of the Presbyterian church. Excellent music was furnished by Miss Ada Holbrook, Austin Kershaw and the Eureka College Quartet— Messrs. Reichel, McGuire, Higdon and Carr.

Prof. B. J. Radford of Eureka, gave an address on "The Beginnings of Woodford County." The Professor was a mere boy when the county was formed, yet he remembers the stirring events incident to the steps taken for the formation of the county. He knew the men who took the leading part in securing names on the petition asking the legislature that the territory be formed into a county, the party who went on horseback to Springfield to place the petition before the legislature and the men who signed the petition. He stated that at the time the county was formed considerable territory now in the county was taken from McLean and Tazewell counties. Large areas of it were uninhabited. Government land could be bought for \$1.25 per acre, now worth \$250 per acre. He traced the growth and development of the county and recounted the movements leading to the formation of the county; the location of the seat of justice at Versailles; the removal of the county seat from there to Hanover, now Metamora; and later to Eureka. A considerable portion of his address was devoted to social conditions and general government. According to the census of 1850 the population of the county was 4,415. By the census of 1880, 1890 and 1900 the population was little more than 21,000. In 1910 it fell to 20,506. The settlers of Woodford county were of a high type of citizenship. They early devoted themselves to the development of their spiritual and intellectual natures by the location of churches and school houses in their midst.

Hon. J. A. Ranney of Cazenovia, gave an address on "The Early Settlers of Woodford County." It was a



masterly address. Mr. Ranney was interested in his subject. The audience was in sympathy with the speaker. He was one of the early settlers and grew eloquent in describing the simple life of early times. The settlers came from New York, New England, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky. The philosophical Dutchman was here, the wide awake Irishman, who is always present where there is anything good, the F. F. Vs from Virginia. They came from everywhere. Brought up under different conditions they possessed dispositions peculiar to themselves. They mingled and became neighbors, living in peace and harmony and were Americans in the true sense. It took courage those days to leave home, friends and ties, traveling on horseback or in a covered wagon, the trip requiring six months, to make a home in this wild western country, never expecting to see their home people again. These people were masters of the situation. They made homes, though the log cabin was the rule. It was home. The good house-wife spun, wove, cut out, made clothing for the family and cared for her home. She was queen, and there was happiness and contentment in the one-roomed log house with the mud and brick fireplace for both cooking and heating purposes. This one room was given up for school at times. We of to-day do not know how it was done, but our heroic mothers did it. Churches too were built to purify their homes. Schools were built to make their homes intelligent. They did not grab for all the territory in reach, but were satisfied

"To make a happy fire-side chime  
 To wean and wife,  
 That's true pathos and sublime  
 Of human life."

Abraham Lincoln was given as a type of the pioneers of Woodford county. They did what was at hand to do, and they did it in a brave, masterful way, not to get their





names in the paper, but that it was the doing of things that produced results, homes, settlements, county and state. We are to-day enjoying the fruits of the labors of our fathers and grandfathers, the sturdy pioneers of Woodford county.

Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber, Secretary of the State Historical Society, Springfield, by her presence and address added interest to the celebration. She spoke of the good work the State Historical Society is doing and the help it is giving the local historical societies. Its publications are full of interesting matter relating to the early history of the State. Copies are sent to all the local societies. Encouragement was given to the Woodford County Historical Society. Mrs. Weber then gave an instructive address on "The Beginning of Illinois."

After a few minutes intermission Mrs. Rowland Evans, of Bloomington, Illinois, gave briefly some recollections of her early life in Woodford county. Her father, S. S. Park, was the first surveyor of the county. In appropriate remarks she presented to the society her father's commission signed by the Governor. Mrs. Evans also presented to the society an old deed to a quarter section of land in Woodford county, made in 1846; consideration \$250, now worth \$250 per acre. Mrs. Evans thought that the Woodford County Historical Society was entitled to these historical documents.

Many of the early settlers had sent greetings to the society with regrets that advanced age would not permit them to make so long a journey to attend the celebration. Three letters of considerable length and full of early history of the territory and county were read, one from Aaron A. Richardson, Wellington, Kansas, another from Mrs. Jennie Mitchell Bullock, Cleveland, Ohio, and another one from J. J. Davenport, Sturgis, South Dakota. All these letters expressed deep regret that the writers could not be present to enjoy the celebration and see the faces of those whom they have not seen for forty, sixty,



and in some cases seventy years. We keenly felt this disappointment for them.

The meeting was a grand success. In the words of some of these old people: "It is growing better each year." Several have asked: "Why we can not have another celebration soon?"

After a brief prayer Prof. B. J. Radford dismissed the audience.

L. J. FREESE,

Eureka, Ill., March 20, 1911.





# BOOK REVIEWS

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## BOOK REVIEWS

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## BOOK REVIEWS.

### ORIGIN OF THE LAND GRANT ACT OF 1862.

The Origin of the Land Grant Act of 1862 (the so-called Morrill Act), and Some Account of its Author, Jonathan B. Turner. By Edmund J. James. University of Illinois Studies, Vol. IV, No. 1, 1910.

The thesis reads as follows:

"It is proposed to prove in this paper that Jonathan B. Turner, at one time professor in Illinois College, at Jacksonville, Ill., was the real father of the so-called Morrill Act of July 2, 1862, and that he deserves the credit of having been the first to formulate clearly and definitely the plan of a national grant of land to each state in the Union for the promotion of education in agriculture and the mechanic arts, and of having inaugurated and continued to a successful issue the agitation that made possible the passage of the bill." This presentation of the article so well explains the purpose of the paper that no further explanation can add to it. President James has devoted great time and labor to the investigation necessary for the presentation of the paper and it settles definitely for all time the oft-disputed question as to who was the real founder of State agricultural colleges. He also pays tribute to the wise, earnest and persistent advocacy of the policy by Senator Morrill. President James has ably performed the task which he lays out in his thesis and presents letters and documents which prove the position which he takes. The friends of Professor J. B. Turner owe a debt of gratitude to him for this admirable piece of work.

It is understood that Mrs. Mary Turner Carriel, the daughter of Professor Turner, has in course of preparation a biography of her distinguished father. In the pub-





lication of the biography Mrs. Carriel proposes to publish a portion of the correspondence of Professor Turner.

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### ILLINOIS HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

Vol. VI of the Historical Collections of the State Historical Library recently published is entitled 'Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879,' written and compiled by Prof. Franklin W. Scott, of the State University. In his preface, Professor Scott says: "That but a slight amount of this material is preserved at all, and that little of what is extant is accessible, are two deplorable facts to be derived from the following pages. The library lists may prove a convenience to those who have occasion to consult files of early newspapers. If they serve no other purpose, however, they may call attention to the slight amount of such material now in the safe keeping of fire-proof library buildings, and may incidentally help to rescue from attics and storerooms the dwindling legacy that is food for mice and flames."

Considering the late day of beginning to rescue this department of our State history from total oblivion, and the dearth of accessible material, the results produced by Professor Scott are indeed marvelous. Every page of the volume, of 600 pages, is evidence of the prodigious amount of persistent labor necessary to accomplish it. His sources of information, he says, "include practically all of the printed county histories and biographical albums and some in manuscript; the proceedings of State, county and city historical societies, histories of Illinois and of towns; gazetteers, early books of travel, memoirs, city directories, newspaper directories from 1856; fourteen hundred individuals, either through correspondence, or through interviews, and the files of many publications." His work may not be absolutely complete, or



wholly free from errors, but is, without question, a decided addition to the collections of Illinois history, and highly worthy of a place in that series of the Historical Library's publications.

A very valuable part of this record is the ably written introduction (of 104 pages), in which Professor Scott traces the social and economic conditions of Illinois Territory—its population, means of transportation, education, politics, etc.—when its first newspaper was established, at Kaskaskia, in 1814, and on to a recent period. His review of the history and progress of journalism in the State is divided into five stages; the first including the decade from 1814 to the election of 1824, resulting in the defeat of the pro-slavery convention question; the second, from 1824 to the "coonskin and hard cider" campaign of 1840; the third, from 1841 to 1860; the fourth, comprising the following decade to 1870; and the fifth, to 1879. In each stage were new elements of popular opinion, new political issues, and, latterly, many new mechanical aids to the printing art, improved transportation of mails, and telegraphic facilities of inter-communication, that greatly influenced the newspaper industry.

The records of the different newspapers and periodicals of the State, arranged in alphabetic order, are necessarily brief, stating the place and date of the beginning of each, the name of editor or publisher, the changes of title and publishers, if any, and duration of existence of each. It is an admirable and indispensable book of reference, reliable in its facts, and written with scholarly precision.

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## THE GEOLOGY OF ILLINOIS.

Bulletin No. 16 of the Geological Survey of Illinois, recently issued, is the Year Book of the Survey, outlining, in 402 pages, the work done for the year 1909, and





is a valuable and interesting report. Commencing with a thorough investigation of the lead and zinc district of JoDaviess county, it then details at length the petroleum resources of southern Illinois, incidentally reviewing the structural geology of that region, and stating the latest theories of the origin and accumulation of coal, oil and natural gas. Then follows a resume of extensive and elaborate studies of the coal seams of the State, setting forth, with numerous maps, diagrams, and cuts, the entire coal field of Illinois, accompanied by reports of the chemical composition of coal; the coal resources of certain surveyed quadrangles, and an account of mine rescue work; including the causes, and prevention, of explosions and other casualties occurring in the mining of coal.

The concluding chapters, on "The Faunal Succession and the Correlation of the Pre-Devonian Formations of Southern Illinois," and "Structural Materials in Illinois," are, both from a purely scientific and utilitarian view, of great importance to students of geology, as well as to the people generally.

No one can read the facts and conclusions contained in this series of Bulletins, or annual reports, of the Geological Survey, without experiencing an enlarged conception of the superior advantages and greatness of Illinois. In regard to soil and agricultural possibilities, it is the first state in the Union. In extent of its underlying coal deposits it is not surpassed by any. Its vast resources of oil and gas, undeveloped, and practically unknown until 1905, are truly astonishing. To 1909 there had been over 16,000 wells sunk in search of those products in an area of 240 square miles. The number of borings has since greatly increased, and though a large proportion are non-productive, the flow from those that are is sufficient to place Illinois in the lead of all our oil and gas producing states—last year exceeding in quantity that of Pennsylvania's largest output in that line.



## THE PREHISTORIC MEN OF KENTUCKY.

By Col. Bennett H. Young.

Indicating, it would seem, a revival of public interest in the study of aboriginal life in America, is the appearance of this new work on Kentucky archæology, closely following the two ponderous volumes on "The Stone Age in North America," by Prof. Warren K. Moorehead, issued in January from the Riverside Press at Cambridge, Mass. Col. Young's book, from the publishing house of John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, Ky., is a large quarto volume of 341 pages, beautifully printed and well illustrated. It was prepared as No. XXV of the Filson Club publications, "to commemorate the Silver Anniversary" of that organization, for which purpose no more appropriate subject could have been suggested. As a commentary upon the earliest inhabitants of Kentucky, it bears the further explanatory title of "A History of What is Known of Their Lives and Habits, Together with a Description of Their Implements and Other Relics, and of the Tumuli which have Earned for Them the Designation of Mound Builders."

Colonel Young, a native of Kentucky, was a Confederate officer in the civil war, and is now a prominent attorney of the Louisville bar. Considering that it was not until after his election as a member of the constitutional convention of 1890 that he turned his attention seriously to investigating the prehistoric antiquities of his native state, his perfect familiarity with the whole field of which he treats is surprising. Every page of the book attests the author's zeal and untiring labors, as well as his remarkable command of language in detailing their results. In the preliminary chapter he reviews, fully and very fairly, the old controversy over the identity of the Mound Builders, stating all the principal facts and inferences supporting, on one hand, the belief that they were a distinct race, superior in civilization and mechanical arts to the Indians, flourishing here for an indefinite period





of time, then were finally driven away, or exterminated, by invading hordes of red savages; and, on the other hand, the array of testimony in proof of the contention that the red Indians were the real builders of the mounds, no other race but them having ever inhabited either continent of America prior to the coming of Columbus. He, however, gives no intimation of his own views upon this question, leaving the reader to form his individual conclusions from the premises stated. The age of the mound building era, he estimates to have been from 600 to 1,000 years.

The succeeding chapters are altogether descriptive of prehistoric remains in Kentucky, referring to those of other states and countries only when necessary for comparison and illustration. For convenience of description the antiquities of the state—many of which are truly wonderful—are classified, as is usual in treatises of this kind, and each class subjected to critical examination separately.

The relics of the primitive occupants of Kentucky afford no special types peculiar to that state, but only prove, in their diversity, that that region, situated between Ohio and Tennessee, former centers of different well-marked aboriginal culture, was the neutral hunting and camping ground of both peoples, or successively the possession of each. Though not limited by imaginary lines that now define our states, the early Indians settled in chosen habitats, to which they clung until lured to some other presenting superior advantages, or were driven away by more powerful invaders. The tribe, or tribes, whose burial of their dead in graves lined and covered with thin flagstones has given them, by us, the distinctive name of the Stone Grave Indians, having for ages their seat of empire on the Cumberland river about Nashville, spread all over Kentucky, and even beyond the Ohio. Their stone cists enclosing human skeletons, with artifacts displaying a high order of artistic skill, abound



in almost every part of the state interspersed with the mounds, mound burials, forts, linear embankments, and other defensive works, identical with those of Ohio. Much of the raw material for the weapons and implements of the stone age, found there, was apparently drawn from Flint Ridge in the latter state and the chert beds of Tennessee. Copper was sparingly brought from Lake Superior, mica in profusion from the Appalachian range, and marine shells from the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico.

This account of the prehistoric men of Kentucky is a valuable addition to the archaic history of our country—an ably written specialization of primeval life in that state, of equal scientific excellence with the antiquarian work done for Tennessee by General Gates P. Thruston, for Ohio by Squier & Davis; for Wisconsin by I. A. Lap- ham; and for Georgia by Colonel C. C. Jones. Similar work should be—and eventually will be—done for Illinois and all other states in the Union. The overripe field is still awaiting the gleaners.





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## EDITORIAL NOTES.



TO OUR READERS.

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With this number the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* enters upon its fourth volume. Three years ago we issued its first number, in very modest form, as an experiment, and it has since grown so rapidly in public favor, as to convince us that it occupies a place in the literature of our State quite satisfactory to a large class of its people. The demand for it has so increased that an enlarged edition has become necessary, its circulation extending to every county in the State, and to almost every state in the Union.

The object of the *Journal*, as we have before stated, is to popularize Illinois history—to convey to the people and familiarize them with, the the knowledge of facts and events that contribute to perfect the history of our great State, and to interest them in promoting that purpose by adding thereto such historical material as may be in their possession.

At the recent banquet in this city in commemoration of Mr. Lincoln's birthday anniversary, one of the speakers said, in his address, that the history of Mr. Lincoln has not yet been written. This assertion is, in a certain sense, true, notwithstanding the multitude of Lincoln biographies that have been published. The same is equally true of the history of Illinois. The most prominent events and transactions in the inception, growth, and advancement, of the State, are generally well known: but in every county, district, and neighborhood, are stored the memories of local occurrences, incidents, and personal biographies, yet unpublished, essential to a complete history of the State, as are the distant springs





and small rivulets, in coalescing, to the formation of the great river.

The mission of the *Journal* is to induce the collection of those ultimate sources of historical data—to search out fundamental facts, the causes of historical results, the motives and incentives of conspicuous actors therein, and the influences of surrounding conditions at the time. Much of this work has been well done by able writers in the preceding volumes of the *Journal*, and we have encouraging reasons for expecting its continuance in the future. Grateful indeed for the valuable assistance we have received from every quarter, we still respectfully solicit the further aid of all who are interested in our gratuitous undertaking. It is our aim to maintain the reliable standard of this periodical that it now enjoys. With that view we will continue to present to our readers, as far as practicable, original and authentic papers, and only such reprints as are now obsolete but of recognized importance. Contributions on these lines are respectfully requested from all parts of the State.

Due regard will be paid, as heretofore, to contemporary State history, editorial comments, book reviews, and necrological notices.

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#### LEGISLATION BEFORE THE PRESENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RELATING TO HISTORICAL MATTERS AND AFFAIRS.

An unusually large number of bills of interest to the Historical Society have been introduced into the present General Assembly, the more important of which are mentioned below.

The Illinois State Park Commission has prepared a handsome and valuable report describing some of the most important historic places in Illinois and making



suggestions concerning them. Among those mentioned are Starved Rock, the Great Cahokia Mound and the White Pine Forest in Ogle county.

The commission recommends the purchase of Starved Rock and some neighboring land, about 1,100 acres, for a State park. The commission represented by its chairman, Prof. J. A. James, of the Northwestern University, and its secretary, Mr. Alexander Richards, of Ottawa, with a large delegation from LaSalle county and neighboring counties appeared before the appropriation committees of the General Assembly now in session and made eloquent pleas for the purchase of this historic, beautiful and picturesque site and pointed out reasons from every standpoint for the purchase of the land for a State park. A very close and attentive hearing was accorded the commission and its friends; and if the Legislature should decline to make the purchase it will be solely on the ground of economy and the feeling that the State has not at this time sufficient funds to warrant this outlay.

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#### MADISON COUNTY CENTENNIAL, SEPTEMBER 12, 1912.

The people of Madison county propose next year, 1912, to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of Madison county. They propose to celebrate at the same time the centennial anniversary of the first legislative body ever held in Illinois. In 1812 the Territory of Illinois held its first legislature, elected by the people. It is proposed to erect a monument at Edwardsville, the county seat of Madison county, to commemorate the above mentioned historic events and also as a memorial to Governor Ninian Edwards, and of Fort Russell, near Edwardsville, one of the most important of the pioneer forts. An appropriation of five thousand dollars is asked for the erection of the monument.





## SITE OF FORT CHARTRES TO BE PURCHASED.

The citizens of Monroe county and other interested persons are asking the Legislature for a small appropriation of one thousand dollars for the purchase of about ten acres in which is located the site of old Fort Chartres, there being yet remaining the old powder magazine. This is one of the most important historic sites in the Mississippi valley, and its remains should be purchased, preserved and marked by the State of Illinois.

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUZZLE.

(Letter from Rev. James Howard, Pastor St. Agnes Catholic Church, Springfield, Ill.)

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, January 30, 1911.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,  
Secretary of the Historical Society,  
Springfield, Illinois.

MY DEAR MRS. WEBER—I received your favor of the 28th and the Journal of the Society, both having reference to a bronze piece found in St. Clair County. I thank you for both. It seems to me that the opinion that the relic is not a medal of the Church is correct. It was made by some Catholic for his own use. In the supposition that it be of French origin, in conformity with the ancestral fleur-de-lis found on it, we may say that, on account of the period at the end, the word Leith is an abbreviation of some French family name, such as Leithiere or Leithellieux. The family escutcheon in brass or marble is a familiar sight on the Continent. In this particular case, the Caravel may designate the habit of sea-faring in that family or at least that their castle was near the sea and the Blessed Virgin is commemorated to invoke Her intercession for protection from Her Son



against the dangers of the deep. In the event that the word Leith be English, we can take the fleur-de-lis to be simply a canopy (commonly found over the Blessed Virgin's statues). Possibly the solder and perforations, which indicate wire, may show that this was a single cachet used in the year 1800 on some important transfer from La Belle France to the country of the Illinois.

Very respectfully your servant,

JAMES HOWARD.

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### THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUZZLE.

(Letter from Rev. C. J. Eschman.)

PRAIRIE DU ROCHER, ILL., Feb. 1, 1911.

I do not consider your "Archaeological Puzzle" a religious one. Catholic medals usually have impressions and inscriptions on both sides; it is hardly probable that the one side should be in such fair state of preservation, and the other worn entirely smooth.

The transposition of the letters and figures make the supposition of its being used as a seal most probable to me. I have no books in the country here in which to search for the escutcheon of Leith, Scotland, which I think it comes nearer representing than anything else. The thought suggests itself, that the illustration may represent the ferryman transferring a human soul across the mythological "Lethe,"—this illustration may have been selected on account of the similarity of names. It may also be that the location of Lieth suggested the placing of a ferryman, if such it be, on their escutcheon; for before bridges were built, ferrymen must have abounded in Lieth.

A Scotchman coming to these western French settlements in the beginning of the 19th century, could easily have brought this seal with him. And it is not difficult to





see how it eventually came into the hands of some Indian, to be buried with his remains.

Respectfully, etc.,

C. J. ESCHMAN.

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### GIFTS TO THE HISTORICAL LIBRARY.

The Illinois State Historical Library has received as gifts since the publication of the last number of the *Journal* several valuable books and pamphlets. The trustees of the Library take this method of thanking the donors for these gifts and they hope that the excellent example set by these members of the Historical Society may be followed by others who from time to time find historical or genealogical material at their disposal.

The following is a partial list of the gifts and the names of the donors:

The Pioneer History of Illinois, by John Reynolds. The original edition, published Belleville, 1852. Gift of Dr. M. H. Chamberlin.

History of Missouri. By Louis Houck; 3 Vols. Gift of Dr. M. H. Chamberlin.

History of the Foote Family, comprising the genealogy and history of Nathaniel Foote, of Weathersfield, Conn. and his descendants, compiled by Abram W. Foote; 607 pages, Rutland, Vt., 1907. The gift of John Crocker Foote, of Belvidere, Ill.

Members of the Society are especially urged to present these local and family histories to the Library.

The Pre-historic Men of Kentucky. By Col. Bennett Young. Filson Club Publications No. 25. The gift of the Filson Club upon its silver anniversary. This valuable book is fully described in this number of the *Journal* under the head of Book Reviews.



The Springfield Directory and Sangamon County Advertiser for 1855-56. This little book is the first printed directory of Springfield and the Library has long been searching for a copy of it. It is the gift to the Library of Mrs. Katherine Goss Wheeler, who has placed the Library and Society under heavy obligations for gifts of much valuable historical material, assistance, suggestions and advice.

Genealogy of the Blackwelder-Scherer Families. The gift to the Library of Mr. I. S. Blackwelder, of Chicago; typewritten manuscript.

The First Presbyterian Church of Rushville, Ill., 1830-1910. Eightieth anniversary. The gift of Howard F. Dyson, of Rushville, Ill. The Library is very desirous of obtaining all such local historical material and has published a number of circular letters asking the members of the Society for contributions of this nature.

Memories of Old Toulon. Souvenir of Eliza Hall Shallenberger. The gift of Mrs. H. M. Blair, of Toulon, Ill.; 2 Vols.

This is a fine example of what is so much wanted in the line of local historical material.

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## HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS OF GREAT VALUE.

VALUABLE GIFT TO THE HISTORICAL LIBRARY BY THE HEIRS  
OF ZIMRI ENOS, OF SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Miss Louise I. Enos has from time to time made valuable gifts to the Library and she has recently on behalf of her father's heirs presented to it a valuable document. It is an original document and bears the legend, "plat and field notes of section 16. township 17. north of range 6 west of the 3rd principal meridian as surveyed by me" signed A. Lincoln, for T. M.





Neale, S. S. C., May 10th, 1836. The whole document is in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln and is one of the best of these surveying documents. Lincoln collectors have offered the Enos family large sums of money for this paper, but they prefer to place it in the collection of Lincolniana, which the Historical Society is trying to build up for the people of Illinois. The Society and Library are most grateful to Miss Enos and the other members of her family for this and other generous gifts.

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#### EXECUTIVE ORDERS OF GOV. RICHARD YATES, THE WAR GOVERNOR.

The Historical Society has received as a gift from former Governor Richard Yates the original manuscript book of executive orders of the War Governor Richard Yates.

The first entry bears date of April 17, 1861, and shows the promptness with which Governor Yates and the other Illinois officers met the great emergency. It covers but a brief period of time, but has many valuable and interesting entries of much historic value. We will describe it more fully in the next issue of the *Journal*. The Society is much pleased to receive from the son of the great War Governor this valuable historical document.

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#### ILLINOIS GENEALOGIES.

Mr. Wilbur M. Kelso, of Chicago, has nearly completed a genealogy of the Kelso family.

Mr. Pierson W. Benning, of Chicago, is at work upon a history and genealogy of the Benning family, with material relating to a number of other allied families, among which are the Allen, Alsop, Bateman, Button, Hamner, Harmar, Hubbell, Kelsy, Lindsley, McCorkle, McKnight, Mitchell Pierson, Post and Wheelwright families.



## **PORTRAIT OF JAMES N. BROWN PLACED IN THE ILLINOIS FARMERS' HALL OF FAME.**

On January 25, 1911, a portrait of James N. Brown was unveiled in the Illinois Farmers' Hall of Fame, Morrow Hall, at the University of Illinois. The portrait is the gift of Mr. B. W. Brown, the son of James N. Brown. Mr. Brown represented the finest type of the Illinois pioneer and farmer. He did as much as any man to improve methods of farming in Illinois. He was the first president of the Illinois State Fair Association and was the first in the State to import breeds of fine live stock.

Mr. Brown is the second to receive the honor of having a place in the Hall of Fame. On December 13, 1909, the portrait of Cyrus Hall McCormick was placed in the hall and appropriate exercises were held at that time.

On the occasion of the unveiling of the portrait of Mr. Brown a number of distinguished speakers made addresses on his life and services. The address of welcome was delivered by President E. J. James, of the University of Illinois. Addresses were made by Gov. C. S. De-  
neen, Chas. F. Mills, A. P. Grout, Alvin H. Sanders, Paul Selby, Clinton L. Conkling and John M. Crebs. The portrait was unveiled by Miss Lynette May Brown, great granddaughter of Mr. Brown.

The next candidate for the honor of a place in the Hall of Fame is the name of Jonathan Baldwin Turner, the founder of the plan for agricultural colleges.

The addresses were more than ordinarily interesting and a full account of the exercises and some of the addresses will be printed in the Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society.

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## **GOV. FORD'S MARRIAGES.**

EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL:

When recently looking over Collet's *Index* to the parish Register of marriages of Cahokia, I noticed re-





corded therein the marriage of Thomas Ford and Frances Hambaugh, "of Edwardsville," on the 11th of September, 1828.

As recounted in the July, 1910, number of this *Journal*, it is stated in the marriage records of Madison county (Ill.), that Thomas Ford and Frances Hambaugh were married, in Edwardsville, on the 12th day of June, 1828, by Theophilus W. Smith, then a justice of the peace, who, in after years attained the position of Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois.

All the Hambaugh family were devout members of the Roman Catholic church, and that church denies the validity of marriage ceremonies performed by justices of the peace. In order therefore to quiet the scruples of his bride and her relatives on that point, Ford took her to the old church at Cahokia, in September following their June wedding, and they were there remarried by Father Loisel, the parish priest, in accordance with the prescribed forms and ceremonies of the Catholic faith.

J. F. S.

Virginia, Illinois.



129-130

Dr. P. L. J. M. M.

OF NATURE'S GIFT, and the first of the  
nobles in the world, and the first of the  
born in Frederick's name. The first of the  
raised by nature, and the first of the  
In 1744 he was the first of the first of the  
honorable, and the first of the first of the  
the American people, and the first of the  
April 11, 1744, and the first of the  
man, and the first of the first of the  
humanity, and the first of the first of the

## NECROLOGY

and the first of the first of the  
and the first of the first of the  
with the first of the first of the  
and the first of the first of the  
General of the first of the first of the  
night of the first of the first of the  
part of the first of the first of the  
of the first of the first of the  
During the first of the first of the  
the first of the first of the first of the  
sweep of the first of the first of the  
look-off, the first of the first of the  
march of the first of the first of the  
Louis and the first of the first of the  
city April 1877, and the first of the  
ington. A man of the first of the first of the  
4th, announces the first of the first of the  
having reached the first of the first of the  
his wife, three children, and the first of the  
fifty-two grand-children, and the first of the  
a member of the first of the first of the





## DR. BENJAMIN N. BOND.

Of Shadrach Bond, the first Governor of Illinois, Reynolds, in his Pioneer History of Illinois, says, he "was born in Frederick county, Maryland, in 1773, and was raised by a pious father, Nicholas Bond, on a plantation." In 1794 he came to Illinois, and became an inmate of the household of his uncle, Shadrach Bond, Sr., on a farm in the American Bottom. Reynolds further says: "On April 11, 1830, he expired in happiness and in peace with man. His last breath was breathed in good will to the human family and praise of God."

Six children survived Governor Bond, four daughters and two sons, all of whom but Benjamin N., the youngest son, passed away many years ago. He, Benjamin N., was born at Kaskaskia, in the old Bond mansion, in 1826, and was a contemporary and life-long friend of the late General John Cook. Having chosen the profession of medicine for his life vocation, he graduated in that department of Transylvania University, and for a number of years was a busy practitioner at Stansberry, Missouri. During the civil war he was a regimental surgeon, with the rank of major in the Union army, and saw active service in the engagements at Shiloh, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, and with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. After the war Dr. Bond located in St. Louis, and was one of the prominent physicians of that city until 1890, when he moved to Bellingham, in Washington. A press despatch from Seattle, dated March 4th, announces his death, at his home in Bellingham, having reached the age of 85 years. He is survived by his wife, three children, twenty-six grand-children, and fifty-two great-grandchildren. For sixty years he was a member of the Masonic order.



## DEATH OF MR. THOMAS J. CROWDER.

The Illinois State Historical Society has lost in the death of Mr. Thomas J. Crowder, of Springfield, Ill., one of its earliest and most faithful members and friends.

Mr. Crowder died at his home in Springfield, Ill., Feb. 22, 1911. He was born May 28, 1835, on a farm one-half mile west of Washington park. His father, John C. Crowder, came to Springfield township November 1, 1824. The decedent was a minister of the Methodist denomination, and at the time of the civil war was debarred from enlisting only by physical defects. He was a member of the Illinois State Historical Society, and was the author of the novel, "What Shall It Be?" a religious work which gained wide circulation.

His first wife was Elizabeth F. Wright, whom he married June 24, 1856, and who died December 4, 1872. He married Miss Martha Tomlin, January 24, 1874, who survives him. Four children, William and Martha Louise, both at home, Mrs. Elizabeth C. George and Edward Crowder, of this city survive. Four grandchildren also are left. Mr. Crowder is survived also by three sisters, Mrs. Frances McKee, Mrs. Annie Wright, of this city, and Miss Louise Crowder, of Iowa, and two brothers, John J. of Peoria, and Joseph W., of this city.

Mr. Crowder will be missed by a large circle of friends to whom his kindly, friendly and appreciative words were always a source of help and inspiration.

No member of the Illinois State Historical Society visited the rooms of the Society more frequently, and the Library had no more welcome guest. The secretary of the Society and her associates all bear testimony to his kindness to them individually and his faithfulness to the Society. He will long be missed and his labors will continue to bear fruit though his genial face is seen no more amongst us.





## DEATH OF GEN. JAMES S. CULVER.

In the death of Gen. James S. Culver the Illinois State Historical Society has lost another of its valued members. General Culver was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1852, and came to Illinois when a young boy. He lived in Taylorville where he engaged in the stone and marble business for some years. He came to Springfield in 1883 and went into business as a stone contractor. He was the builder of many important buildings in Springfield and in other places, including the Memorial Temple erected by the State to the Illinois troops on the battle field of Vicksburg, the State armory, etc. He was a business man of the highest type. Scrupulously honest, he was more than fair in his dealings with his associates. His kindness of heart and great generosity were distinguishing traits. He died in Springfield on March 17, 1911. He leaves his wife and one son and several brothers and sisters. He was much interested in the work of the Historical Society and was always ready to aid it in any enterprise.

He was very enthusiastic and active in his interest in State militia affairs and was at one time colonel of the Fifth Infantry Regiment, Illinois National Guard, and served at the head of the regiment during the Spanish-American war. He was brigade commander, Second Brigade, Illinois National Guard from 1903 to 1907.



## Publications of the Illinois State Historical Library and Society.

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No. 1. \*A Bibliography of Newspapers Published in Illinois prior to 1860. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago; assisted by Milo J. Loveless, graduate student in the University of Chicago. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 2. \*Information Relating to the Territorial Laws of Illinois, passed from 1809 to 1812. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D. 15 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 3. \*The Territorial Records of Illinois. Edited by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago. 170 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 4. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1900. Edited by E. B. Greene, Ph. D., secretary of the society. 55 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 5. \*Alphabetic Catalog of the Books, Manuscripts, Pictures and Curios of the Illinois State Historical Library. Authors, Titles and Subjects. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Library, by the librarian, Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. 363 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 6. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1901. 122 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 7. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1902. 246 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1902.

No. 8. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1903. 376 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1904.

No. 9. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1904. 701 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1904.

No. 10. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1905. 500 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

No. 11. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1906. 437 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

No. 12. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1907. 436 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1908.

No. 13. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1908. 383 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1909.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 1. Edited by H. W. Beckwith, President Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library. 642 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1903.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 2. Virginia series, Vol. 1. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord. CLVI and 663 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1907.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 3. Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858. Lincoln Series, Vol. 1. Edited by Edwin Erle Sparks, Ph. D., 627 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1908.

\*Out of print.





\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 4. Executive Series, Vol. 1. The Governors' Letter-books, 1818-1834. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Clarence Walworth Alvord. 317 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 5. Virginia Series, Vol. II. Kaskaskia Records, 1778-1790. Edited by Clarence Walworth Alvord. L and 681 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library, Vol. 1, No. 1, Sept., 1905. Illinois in the Eighteenth Century. By Clarence W. Alvord, University of Illinois. 38 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1, No. 2, June 1, 1906. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, 1809-1811. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord, University of Illinois. 34 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

\*Circular Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1, No. 1, Nov., 1905. An outline for the study of Illinois State history. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, by Jessie Palmer Weber, Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library and Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society, assisted by Georgia L. Osborne, assistant Librarian. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. Vol. I, Nos. 1-4. April, 1908, to January, 1909. Vol. II, Nos. 1-4, April, 1909, to January, 1910. Vol. III, Nos. 1-4, April, 1910, to January, 1911.

\*Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Vol. 1, Nos. 1-3, April to October, 1908.

Vol. 2, Nos. 3, 4, October, 1908, and July, 1909.

Vol. 3, Nos. 1 and 4, April, 1910, and January, 1911.

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\*Out of print.

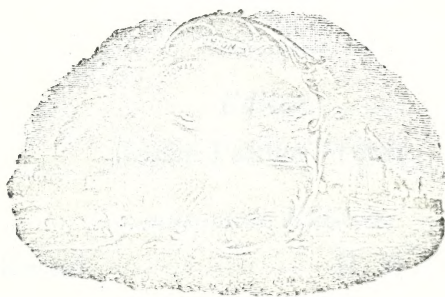


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1911





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## JOURNAL

OF THE

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## MONETARY SYSTEM OF NOUVELLE FRANCE.

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Chas. M. Thompson, Fairfield, Ill.

The annals of the monetary system of Nouvelle France were very simple indeed if the amount of accessible material concerning them is a fair indication. The period under consideration was one when credit was insecure, and the primary functions of money were little understood. Not only were its fundamental uses misunderstood, but added to this were the evils of coin debasement and over-issue of paper. Not in France alone was this economic fallacy found. The pernicious results attached themselves to all the European countries as well as their colonies. Two things contributed to accelerate the monetary evils in the American colonies of France. (1) General ignorance of the colonists regarding money matters, especially its issue. (2) Too free hand allowed the exploiting trading companies. It has often been said that the American colonies were not only markets for manufactured goods sent from Europe, but that they served for an experimental community in which economic and political theories might be tried out and examined with little injury to the mother country.

Although many of the colonists in Nouvelle France were attached to the soil and thereby raised the necessities of life, which enabled them to grow into a healthy community with little importations from Europe, and with little concern for a complex monetary system, yet one business, which soon overtopped all others,<sup>1</sup> that of fur

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<sup>1</sup> "We come to a trade which absorbed the enterprise of the colony, drained the life sap from the branches of industry \* \* \* \* the hardy, adventurous, lawless fur trade."—Parkman, *Old Régime in Canada*, 303-15. Sulte puts it tersely thus: "La verité est que Canada vivait de l'agriculture et que la traite la ruinait."—*Histoire des Canadiens-Français*, V, 23.



trading, demanded that some sort of a medium of exchange be devised. For immediate transfers on a small scale the skin of the beaver was both adequate and satisfactory. For payments large and far removed, something else was necessary, and this something else came in the form of certificates or bills issued by the colonial government at Quebec, or by the trading companies doing business in Nouvelle France. That these certificates were not always paid, and that many hardships resulted from such non-payment, is a subject to be treated later.

As in all new countries, this colony early devised means for facilitating exchange even without the consent of the authorities. When the first colonists had settled themselves and had begun to look around, they found that some forms of exchange were being used by the Indians.<sup>2</sup> As soon as it became apparent that the Indian currency was a real one and that furs and grain could be purchased with it, the settlers gained confidence, and with very little trouble slipped into the customs of their red neighbors. Although like the beaver skin itself, these mediums of exchange could be used only when the amount to be paid was small, yet they played an important part among the earliest settlers and should be considered seriously in any comprehensive investigation of the monetary system of Nouvelle France.

These substitutes for money are in a way but incidental to the real subject under consideration and could have influenced commerce very little. True they had a local importance, but between such places as Detroit and Quebec their use would have been a physical impossibility. Before taking up the question of real money issued either

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<sup>2</sup> Taking North America as a whole, at least eleven kinds of money seem to have been in circulation among the Indians: (1) Lignite and coal money. (2) Ivory and bone money. (3) Terra cotta money. (4) Stone money. (5) Gold coins. (6) Silver coins. (7) Galena coins. (8) Copper coins. (9) Pieces of substance composed of such materials as lead, mica, shells, pearls, carnelian, chalcedony, agate, jasper, fossil, encrinites or stone lilies. (10) Scylates or concavo-convex copper disks. (11) Beaver and marten skins.





by the authorities or by companies with the consent of the king, let us look into the certificates of deposit which were given by the warehouse superintendents when furs were received. Closely allied to these were the bills issued in payment for the furs and which were to be guaranteed by the government or trading companies, whose name they bore, and were payable at a future time in lawful money.

To attempt to find and describe every incident of this character would be as impossible as it is unnecessary. The extent of the practice was great, and its influence was good or bad according as the bills and certificates were paid or not paid. Following out the general policy of trade and commerce as practiced in Europe, the king seconded by his council and the authorities in the colonies, attempted to make headway against the natural flow of supply and demand.<sup>3</sup> In almost all of the grants to companies and farmers, it was expressly stipulated that a certain amount of furs should be receivable at the warehouses, and certificates issued for them.<sup>4</sup> On account of of the law that prohibited the exportation of furs to places other than French, even when the French markets themselves were glutted and incapable of receiving further shipments, these receipts were many times almost valueless, and hard times came as a natural result. The bills were usually issued by the government, but there were cases when they were put out by trading companies, which had or were supposed to have, available funds in France. The former of these kinds of bills were usually paid, it is true, but many times after their value had been decreased by royal decree. To the king it was many times

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<sup>3</sup> Recognizing that this expression is time worn and often used meaninglessly, I have hesitated to use it.

<sup>4</sup> In some cases the entire supply had to be taken. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that the supply far outran the demand. There are few better examples in America in illustrating the waste of natural resources. After a trading company composed of Canadians had been formed, the demand for furs fell off with the result that three-fourths of the stock in the warehouses was consigned to the flames. For reasons for decline in the demand for skins, see Parkman, *The Old Régime in Canada*, 304, ff.





more expedient to declare that all bills on the royal treasury should be paid in a debased coin or depreciated paper, than it was to pay them in the kind of money which they represented, and which the holder had every right to expect. Such actions were not so fruitful of bad results as one might be led to expect, although at times conditions resulting from the acts were deplorable. Part of the sting of repudiation was taken away by the fact that the Indians paid more for their goods than they were worth, and they in turn threw the loss on the beavers themselves. Nature furnished the commodity, and man took it for the asking. Where profits are as enormous as they were in Nouvelle France, in the fur catching industry, during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, much of the wealth represented by the commodity producing the profit may be taken away without causing any real and wide spread hardship. It is possible that the king and his advisers considered the question in this light and thus justified their actions in the matter.

From the very beginning of the colonies, in fact dating from the arrival of the first explorer, there were more or less coins in Nouvelle France. Selecting almost any date in the history of the colony, one would find that the gold and silver money fell into four general classes: (1) French coins. (2) Foreign coins. (3) Coins issued by the trading companies. (4) Coins minted expressly for the colony in America. Of these classes most is known about the first. More of it was in circulation in the colonies, and this circulation was regulated, rather to say an attempt was made to regulate it, by the French government, and consequently an account of it more or less complete has come down to us. The history of the vicissitudes through which the hard money of the French colonies went may be read tolerably accurately in the history of the financial activity of France. To one uninitiated in the subject, and in its manner of treatment, it is not an





easy task to pick out and classify the acts that had the greatest effect on the finances of French America.<sup>5</sup>

To get a thorough understanding of the monetary conditions in Nouvelle France, it is as necessary to study the economic philosophy current during this time, as it is to look into and interpret the available statistics. To gather the latter and apply twentieth century standards to them would be to miss the mark. Living at a time when money has an absolute value so far as its weight and fineness is concerned; when all paper is promptly paid on demand, we are likely to place too much emphasis on the evil results due to an unstable and unsound currency. Accustomed to the ever recurring changes of the value of money, as well as to the frequent repudiation by royal decree, the merchants and traders of Nouvelle France made themselves safe by a wide margin of profit.<sup>6</sup>

One other caution is necessary before taking up the question of the legislation affecting the coinage and re-coinage of gold, silver, and copper, and the issuing of various kinds of paper money. The idea that value could be given to a commodity by stamping or printing was not a new idea then, nor is it unknown at the present day. Without going into the theory of money, most people are ready to agree that the value of any commodity as a medium of exchange depends upon the willingness of the people to receive it in exchange for goods and services. Yet this fundamental principle was violated time and time again in Nouvelle France as well as in the remaining American colonies. Another fallacy that affected the amount of money in Nouvelle France was the prevailing idea usually called the mercantilist theory. In the endeavor to keep as much money as possible—gold and silver—within France, the colonies were often

<sup>5</sup> These may be found in *Edits et Ordonnances*.

<sup>6</sup> There seems to be a general agreement that the English traders sold the same quality of goods cheaper than did the French.



times almost destitute of specie. Although it was a common occurrence for the King's council to declare that French coins should have no circulation in the colonies, there is but one incident, so far as I have been able to find, which shows that Canadian hard money was prohibited to circulate in France. In the mad race with England and Spain, France jealously guarded her treasures of metal even at the expense of the well being of her own blood across the sea.

With no pretention of scientific sequence, let us examine the situation a little more closely and see if possible the trend of affairs as it effected gold and silver coin. We learn from Sulte, that prior to 1668 not more than 111,000 francs of silver coin had been imported into the colony.<sup>7</sup> Four reasons may be given for such a poor showing: (1) Relative poverty of the inhabitants. (2) Strong influence of the mercantile policy. (3) Fear of losing the coin by seizure by pirates and public enemies in times of war.<sup>8</sup> (4) Fear of losing the coin by shipwreck.

It must be kept in mind that the amount mentioned above was brought in, but no account whatever seems to have been taken of the amount returned, lost or put out of circulation by other means, such as being hoarded, melted down or sent to the English colonies.<sup>9</sup> It was a fact lamented by the Jesuits and others, that the importation of luxuries and other non-necessities caused money to be sent to Europe for them, especially when

<sup>7</sup> Silver was the standard at that time.

<sup>8</sup> As to the number of specific instances of capture, I have no data. "L'ete de 1755, trois vaisseaux francais, le Lys \* \* \* surpris par les Anglais tomberent au pouvoir de ceux-ci. De fortes sommes d'argent destinees au Canada furent enlevees avec ces navires."—Sulte, VII., 94.

<sup>9</sup> There was a constant temptation to buy goods from England and Holland through the English colonies on account of the difference in price between them and French goods. The inhabitants of Nouvelle-France, were often prohibited from trading with these people. A lack of coin in the colonies prevented foreign trade.





there was a glut in the French fur market. Taking these things into consideration, one is led to believe that at the end of the sixth decade of French colonization in America, the amount of coin to be found in Nouvelle France was quite insignificant. No statistics regarding the amount of coin brought in after the year 1668 are at hand, but that it was always scarce, is evidenced by the fact that each new arrival of troops was heralded with joy, on account of the amount of hard money brought into the colony by them. Especially was this true when the officers had means other than their salaries. Money—almost universally gold and silver—was brought into the colony at times when the hold of France in the New World was threatened.<sup>10</sup> Any money except coin would have had little value in carrying on war. The very circumstance—war with Great Britain—which tore Nouvelle France, from the mother country, always caused a flow of hard money into America, which, in amount, was sufficient to bolster up the ever declining currency. Notwithstanding the favorable attitude of the settlers toward the King and mother country; notwithstanding the abiding faith of the inhabitants in any kind of paper money so long as it bore the royal crest, some gold and silver possessing an inherent value, was necessary to serve at least as a basis of some kind of a credit system.<sup>11</sup>

Under the able administration of Louis XIV and his ministers, the question of money, both as to its supply and relative value, gave little cause for serious disturbances. With the death of the Grand Monarch, and the accession of a mere child surrounded and inspired by warring factions, the question of both gold and silver, and paper money became paramount. In issuing coin,

<sup>10</sup> "Vers le milieu de mai 1756, le marquis de Montcalm arriva de France \* \* \* \* (et) il apportait aussi des vivres et un million quatre cent mille francs de munieraire."—Sulte, VII., 95.

<sup>11</sup> France was far behind England in this respect.



three important things demanded the attention of the authorities: (1) Its value. (2) How to prevent its exportation. (3) How to prevent its passage to the arts through the melting pot.<sup>12</sup> To complicate the matter somewhat, an attempt was made to give to coins an increased value in the colonies.<sup>13</sup>

In the *Edits et Ordonnances* one finds that rents and all kinds of dues are scheduled at a different amount according as they were to be paid in this or that kind of money; and nothing goes to show that the colonial currency was depreciated to a degree higher than the appreciation in the French coin. As early as 1663, it was ordered that specie should circulate in Nouvelle France, at one-third advance over its so-called French value. Such legislation was initiated by the council at Quebec, and sanctioned by a royal decree.<sup>14</sup>

So far as I have been able to find there was little legislation regarding the value of coin in the colonies before the death of Louis XIV. By the second decade of the eighteenth century, the larger coins, measured by the standard livre, were passing current at a much appreciated value. In 1719, the King ordered a recoinage of gold, and fixed the louis at twenty-five livres.<sup>15</sup> The next year, in order to encourage commerce and to lower the price of necessary commodities—so the King says—the gold louis was further lowered from twenty-five to twenty-four livres. Just what means were employed to keep the possessors of goods from increasing their prices some four or five per cent to meet the depreciation, is conjectural. During the next decade legislation came almost without end. In 1721, disdaining not to meddle in

<sup>12</sup> At this time England allowed conversion of coin into plate.

<sup>13</sup> Repealed in 1717. See *Edits et Ordonnances*, I., 371. We have evidence that the price of goods increased with depreciation. *Ibid.*, 393.

<sup>14</sup> Sulte, IV., 30, V., 28; *Edits et Ordonnances*, I., 492.

<sup>15</sup> *Edits et Ordonnances*, I., 400. 2 *Ibid.*, 436.





small things, an ordinance reduced the copper sol from twenty to eighteen deniers, and the liard from five to four and one-half deniers. Again, in 1724, the King tried his hand in giving to the coin a stability, which seemed necessary to the trade and commerce of the colonies. In spite of the many ordinances of the King prior to this time, the value of a gold louis had risen to twenty-seven livres. Thinking no doubt that a fresh order would carry more weight, it was declared by the King and council (1724) that the louis should be henceforth received and paid out as equivalent to twenty-four livres. It must be kept in mind that the authorities of France were not entirely responsible for such legislation; it followed the prevailing economic philosophy, and conformed to the practices of the most enlightened European countries.

In 1720 the king ordered a recoinage of gold and silver money. The better to enforce the acceptance of coin, which, I suspect, was lighter and more adulterated, it was ordered that any one receiving money of previous issue should be punished. To encourage spying, it was also ordered that the informer be given one-half the fine imposed and one-half of the amount of any confiscation made on account of such acceptance. To prevent exportation, all persons were prohibited from taking coin out of France and her colonies without the written permission of the king. Quite unlike conditions in England at this time, jewelers and goldsmiths were prohibited from using the coins in the arts, and for so doing, a penalty of life servitude on the galleys was imposed. Six years later the king ordered a new issue of coin, in order that a profit—so he states frankly in the edict—might be made to apply to the expense of the colonial governments. To secure the circulation of the issue, it was ordered that all old coins—French and foreign—should have no circulation whatever in the French domain. All such outlawed money was receivable at the royal mint at a fixed price,





which price had a downward movement varying directly with the time from the issue of the edict. As a further means of displacing old coin it was subject to confiscation.<sup>16</sup>

Every such re-coinage had in view the mother country, and whatever effect it had on the colonies was more or less incidental. However slightly these acts may have influenced the struggling colonies in America, they were the basis of her monetary system and must be recorded.<sup>17</sup>

No one understood better the situation in Nouvelle France than Talon, for he occupied a position from which he could and did see the evil effects of a restricted and unstable money system. Many of the cases that came before him related to the payment of debt, such payments being made or tendered in a money quite different from the kind intended in the contract. Being a man of large interests, he advised the king to permit the Company of the West Indies to issue 100,000 livres of copper, which should have circulation only in Nouvelle France.<sup>18</sup> During the next reign, 150,000 mares of copper were coined and confined exclusively to the colonies. The last act was the direct result of an investigation of conditions set on foot by the Superior Council of Quebec. Despite the edicts of the king, that these issues should have circula-

<sup>16</sup> *Edits et Ordonnances*, I., 428, 492, 499.

<sup>17</sup> Acts of this character are very few, and the references in this article exhaust the subject in E. et O.

<sup>18</sup> "We are more fortunate in the existence on an authentic record of the authority by which these coins were issued, than in the preservation of the coins themselves, as we have met with but one denomination of the silver pieces, that of the five sous of which we have seen only two specimens and these from dies slightly differing."

"In LeBlanc's Historic Treatise on the coins of France, it is mentioned on page 304 that under Louis XIV government \* \* \* \* \* were struck for Canada, special coins namely in silver, fifteen sous and five sous pieces \* \* \* and of pure copper, doubles or pieces of two deniers \* \* \* \* the silver pieces are of the year 1670 and familiar. Unknown on the contrary are the doubles and a more exact description of them would be highly interesting."—Crosby, *Early Coins of America*, 133-4.





tion only in Nouvelle France, it is stated in the second edict that the first had been violated.<sup>19</sup>

Although it is obvious that foreign coins would be brought into the French colonies by traders and by immigrants from the Dutch and English colonies and Europe, there is one recorded incident at least when the presence of such coin called forth an edict from the king.<sup>20</sup> By 1681 so much of this coin had been brought into the French colonies that its circulation was seriously impeding commerce and trade, on account of a lack of some definite standard. In that year the Superior Council passed an *arrêt* in which the value of foreign coins was to be expressed in the common French units familiar to the people.

Regarding paper money, there are few edicts and *arrêts* in the sources at hand. Most of them were promulgated for the purpose of either authorizing its issue, or for fixing its value for some fraction of the amount called for on its face. In 1717, an edict was made at Paris, which ordered a new issue to be made for the purpose of defraying the expenses of garrisoning and administering Nouvelle France. Accompanying this was the order that all paper money of a previous issue should be circulated at half its face value. To prevent abuse, Intendants and Governors were prohibited from issuing paper money in the future. On account of the various kinds of money in the colonies—both specie and paper—many disputes arose as to kinds of money required in the payments of debts. It was natural that the debtor and creditor should wish to settle with cheap and dear money respectively. To put an end to such controversies, it was ordered in 1717, that in the future all rents, etc., should be computed on the basis of French coin.

Even such a brief and inadequate account of the monetary system of Nouvelle France as this, would be incom-

<sup>19</sup> *Edits et Ordonnances*, I., 522.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* II., 90.



plete without a mention of the so-called "card money." It derives its name from the fact that common playing cards were cut into four equal parts, and, after being signed by the proper colonial officers, circulated as money throughout the colonies.

To conclude one may say that Nouvelle France suffered, as did most of the world at that time, on account of an unstable and insecure system of finance. Explorers, traders and settlers found a simple monetary system and adapted it to their needs, demanding nothing more complicated until trade had expanded beyond the limits where exchange in kind and token money suffice to carry on trade. Being far removed from the mother country; scattered over millions of acres of trackless forests; opposed by a resolute and uncompromising enemy on the south and east, it may be expected that trade would languish and even finally disappear, unless supported by monetary system both extended and stable. Yet we know that the French trade spread out until it extended over the greater part of the country west of the English colonies along the coast; an extension made possible not by the niceties of a complicated system of trade, but by the enormous profits paid in the final analysis by nature herself.

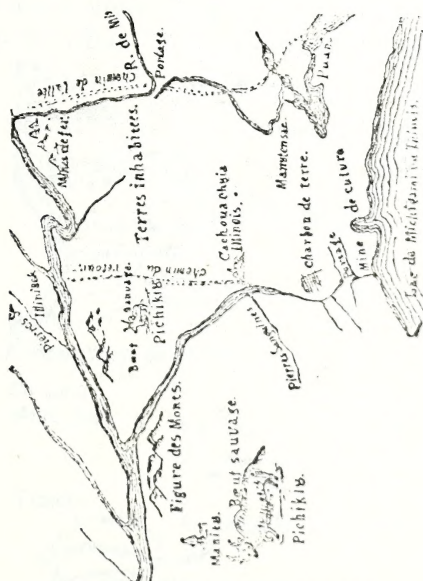




SAC AND FOX TRAIL.

By J. F. Steward.

On the tracing of Thevenot's map, a sketch of which is here presented, purporting, in part at least, to show the route taken by Louis Joliet, sent by the Governor of New France, to definitely locate the Mississippi river, is found a dotted line paralleling the Fox River of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin river to its mouth, and along it the legend, "Chemin de l'allée;" and from the Mississippi river eastward is the legend "Chemin du retour;" the two legends meaning, in plain English, route of going, and route of returning.

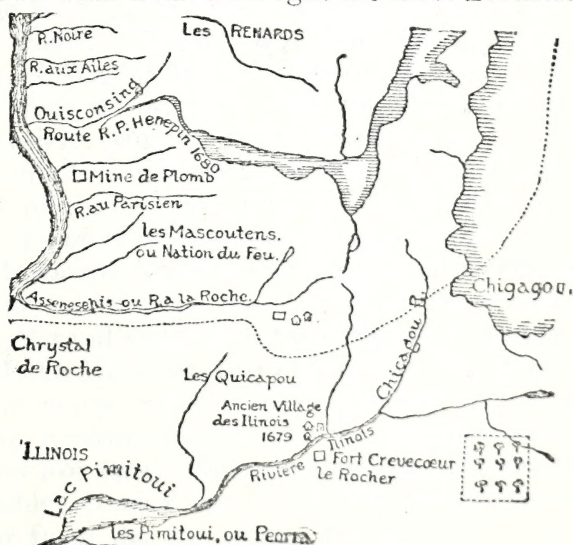


Thevenot's map of 1681.

In descending the Mississippi in 1673, Joliet and his chosen priest companion, James Marquette, finding a path leading westward from a point possibly as far down



as the Des Moines Rapids, followed it some distance to a village of the Illinois tribe. It seems clear to the writer that the path must have been a trans-mississippi extension of the trail through our State from east to west. The early thoughts of past and future importance of a great aboriginal thoroughfare have died hard, as on maps as late as 1822 it is represented. Thevenot's map shows neither of the routes beyond the Mississippi river, but we have ample records that inter-tribal trade, followed by that of the French as far as the Missouri river, had long been known. The routes of Thevenot's map and that of the map of Homan, 1687, were followed by the early traders, Nicolet, Radison, Grosillier and, possibly as stated by Governor Frontenac, some of the commercially-inclined Jesuit Fathers. It seems likely that the trails were known very long before 1673. Homan's map of 1687 shows what I have thought the most northerly route



Homan's map of 1687.

across our State. Of the maps in my possession Homan's is first to show the trail that followed the Rock river for a distance and then struck off southeastwardly. It has





been thought that that cartographer derived his information from Hennepin, as represented by Breese in his "Early History of Illinois." This may well be doubted, as Hennepin, on his own map, shows none of the trails, as quite likely he would have done had he known of them. Michael Acou, a trader (accompanied by the priest, Hennepin), sent up the Mississippi by La Salle, seems more likely to have given the information, or perhaps still earlier traders did so. On an Italian map of 1746 (author not known), following, in many details La Hontan's map of 1705, it is also well known, and still more correctly shown by De Lisle, 1722. On Pownall's great map of 1794 a trail is shown extending from a point just below the mouth of the Wisconsin river southwestwardly to a village of the Ajouez (evidently of the Iowa tribe), on the Missouri river, passing Maha (quite likely a village of one of the Siouxan tribes). Along Pownall's dotted line are the words, "French Route to the Western Indians." The maker of this map evidently acquired his information from the earlier maps and the accounts of the early travelers. John Thompson, on his map of 1817, shows the "path" to the west, his errors in latitude following those of earlier map makers. On two of Carey and Lea's maps of 1822, is shown a straight line, marked "Proposed National Road," extending southeastwardly from near the lead mines, crossing Rock river near its great bend ("Grand Detour"), thence passing just below the head of Lake Michigan and onward to Wheeling, Va. This line for many miles seems to follow the general course of the Kishwaukee trail to its junction with the great Sac and Fox trail (the most northern, if there were two), into which it may have merged and crossed Fox river not far from the site of the Miami town of Mara-mech, of Franquelin's map of 1684. The proposed National Road shown on Carey and Lea's map seems to follow very closely the general route taken by Long from Wheeling in 1805. As the Indians sought the easiest



routes Long may have followed their trails. The eastern termination of the "path" leading from the Missouri river, as shown on various maps, differs in position; some reach the Mississippi near the mouth of the Wisconsin, while others meet the great river near the mouth of Rock river. Still others seem to have led to the Mississippi at the crossing near the Des Moines rapids. The traders may have followed either of the two routes beyond the Mississippi, or both as well as either, or both of two routes through our State. There also was, no doubt, a path running westward from the rapids of the Mississippi near the mouth of Rock river, and, from the fact that on most of the maps at hand, showing the "path," the last named river is not laid down, it seems clear that the early cartographers confused the two rivers or considered the Wisconsin and the latter to be one and the same.

The traders, it seems quite likely, more often took the most northerly route across the State, sometimes stemming the current of Rock river to the great bend, thence following the Kishwaukee trail, which still scars Maramech Hill, and thence on to the lakes.

Black Hawk, for years the leader of the British band of Sacs, led his people over the trail and onward to Malden, Canada, there to receive annuities from the "British father" for their fidelity to the Crown.

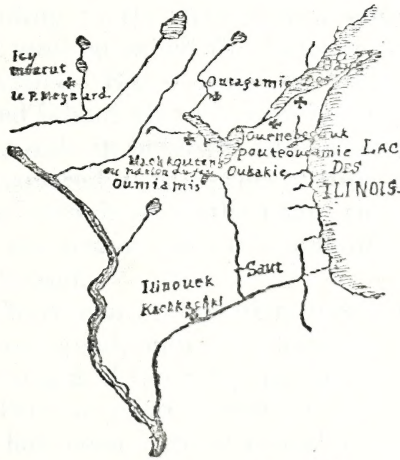
Blanchard shows the Sac and Fox trail too far south, through Kendall county, unless there were two trails. The "Sac and Fox" trail followed by the early settlers, crossed Fox river in Fox township of the county; its scars can be traced, in a few places, at the northeast corner of the last named place where it climbs the hill, at the old ford, and between Somonauk and Sandwich, in DeKalb county.

That the French followed the route along the Wisconsin for more than a hundred years, more or less, is amply recorded. More than otherwise it was the carrying of arms to the Sioux that led to the obstruction of their trade,





imposed by the Foxes, whose several villages extended along the Wisconsin river, as far down as the lead mines which, for years they successfully worked. The Sioux were their bitter enemies. The resistance to the trade between the French and the Sioux, as well known, resulted in the expulsion of the tribe from the region and their partial extinction in 1730 on the hill "Rising with a gentle slope to the west and northwest from a little river," Big Rock creek, its mouth near the "Saut" of the "Pestecnoy," later the "Riviere du Rocher." After the massacre of 1730 it became "Riviere des Renards," and, as translated by the pioneers, Fox River.



Fragment of an old dateless French map made about 1680.

Taking up the matter of the trail with Mrs. Julia Mills Dunn, whose charming paper on Saukenuk is found in our records, she sent me the following letter with permission to make use of it; it seems to refer to the lower trail, perhaps that shown by Blanchard:

"In answer to your request for the location of the old 'Sauk Trail' (as the Indian trail was called), leading from Black Hawk's town on Rock river, to Detroit, Michigan,



I may say I have drawn a line on the map according to my idea of the route as far as "Indian Town," now Tiskilwa, which I believe to be substantially correct, having passed over it at different points in all three of the counties through which it passes; viz.: Rock Island, Henry and Bureau, in the later thirties.

"'Saukenuk,' or Black Hawk's Town, was situated on the north bank of Rock river, where the village of Scar now stands, at the foot of the bluff, upon the top of which his people had buried their dead for many generations, and about a half mile west of the famous peak on the bluff known as 'Black Hawk's Watch Tower.' It stood opposite to the head of 'Big Island,' a large island extending to the Mississippi (three miles) and forming what may be called the Delta of Rock River.

"Above 'Big Island' is Vandruff's Island, an oval shaped island about a mile in length and a little less than half a mile in breadth, and so situated that three bridges are required at the present time to cross from the north to the south bank of the river, the R. I. & P. R. R. passing over the lower end of Vandruff's and the upper end of Big Island.

"There can be but little doubt that these islands were also occupied, more or less, by the Indians with their wigwams and their tepees and their play-grounds. Here had been a great center of Indian life and population; here had been a great crossing for the Indian from time immemorial; and here *has been* a great crossing for the white people since displacing him.

"By way of explanation, I may say that some histories place the site of Black Hawk's town at the mouth of Rock river; but the fact was, and is, as I have stated, though his corn-fields extended along the foot of the bluffs on the Mississippi side for a distance of three miles in the direction of the present city of Rock Island; the old corn-hills, of which some remain to this day, as they were left by the 'squaws,' except that they are now entirely sodded over with blue grass.





"Starting, then, from a point on the south bank of Rock river, where the town of Milan now is, the 'Old Sauk Trail' passed in a southeasterly direction across the bottom to and up the bluff somewhat south of the track of the R. I. & P. R. R. on its way to Coal Valley Station, and passing that station, still to the south, strikes the railroad near Crampton Station, just over the line of Henry county, in Western township. The trail crossed Mr. Crampton's farm on section 8 of that township (called the 'Sunny Hill' farm), and passing Orion slightly to the north struck the railroad again very near the Osco Station in the township of the same name, and passing into Munson township at about section 30, crossing that township into Cornwall at section 31, crossing that township and possibly cutting off from Burns township a small wedge and touching Kervanac township at section 6, very nearly on the line between that township and the township of Ananon in Henry county, and passing into Bureau county near the northwest corner of Neponset township, crossing the C. B. & Q. track not far from Neponset Station, and so on through the townships of Neponset, Macon and Indiantown on a line almost due east to the 'Indian Town' or village where Tiskilwa now stands. This point is as far as I agreed to locate this 'Indian path.' (as it is called in an old map published in the forties), but I have a theory or idea of its location, which I will proceed to give you after a single remark about the line so far. This trail strikes out from Milan to the high lands or divide between Green river and the swampy lands at the head-waters of that river and the head-waters of the Edwards river, both running across Henry county. The trail follows this 'divide' as near as may be. They almost always do that; or if they follow streams, they take the high land on one side or the other and avoid the low lands or 'bottoms' as the case may be.

"As to the extension of the trail to the east of Tiskilwa, my idea is that it bears northerly to near where Princeton



now is, and perhaps to Dover (as the people of Dover have saved up a small section of an Indian trail in their cemetery which they think is this one), and striking over to the high lands on the north side of the Illinois river to an Indian village said to be seven miles below the present city of Ottawa, passing which and crossing Fox river, continued easterly near the line of the C. R. I. & P. R. R. as far east as the town of Morris on that road, and probably crossing the river above the mouth of the Kankakee, coming in on the south side, and from that point running easterly, bearing to the north, almost in a direct line on the 'divide' between the swamps of the Kankakee on the south and Lake Michigan on the north to the south bend of the St. Joseph river, where the city of South Bend, Indiana, now is; thence up that stream through the counties of St. Joseph, Branch, Calhoun, Jackson, Washtenaw and Wayne, in which county Detroit is situated.

"Hoping you will be able to decipher this, I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed) A. M. HUBBARD."

P. S. I have an old map published in 1847, in which is marked an old Indian path through all the counties named except the first and last, which I am satisfied represents the route of the old Sauk Trail. A. M. H."

North of the C. R. I. & P. R. R., a few miles west of Bureau Junction, appears what I believe to be a part of a trail, plainly visible from the train, north of the road, climbing the hill along a sharp ridge, corresponding closely with Mrs. Hubbard's tracing.

The trail should be mapped and marked by boulders well inscribed. Who shall do it? Will not the members of the State Historical Society put their heads together and do the work?





## JAMES ROOD DOOLITTLE OF WISCONSIN.

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GLEANINGS FROM THE PRIVATE LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS OF  
A SENATOR OF THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD.

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Contributed by Duane Mowry of Milwaukee, Wis.

Judge James R. Doolittle was elected to the United States Senate by the Wisconsin Legislature in January, 1857, his term of service commencing the following March. He was re-elected in 1863 to succeed himself, serving the full period of two terms, from 1857 to 1869, twelve years.

Judge Doolittle's senatorial service included the troublous times preceding the Civil War, the entire Civil War period, and a portion of the period which was given over to the solution of the problems which were the outgrowth of the war between the states. He was the confidant and confidential adviser of two presidents, Lincoln and Johnson. He was the trusted friend of the anti-slavery movement. He was a lawyer of more than ordinary ability. He was a debater of acknowledged power. He was an orator of the very first quality. Naturally, such a character was much sought and he was much feared. It has been said of him that one time, when he was in the zenith of his power and glory, more persons had heard his voice than had heard the voice of any other living person. And the statement is doubtless true. He, himself, believed it to be literally true.

Senator Doolittle was a positive character. It was his delight to support a cause vigorously. And it was equally his pleasure to oppose a cause or a measure most vehemently. He never did things by halves. But his support or opposition of any measure would always have to have the approving conscience back of it. He did, or



failed to do, something, because, in his opinion, it was right to take that particular position or view. His official career was always controlled by this lofty and ennobling attitude of mind.

The private papers and correspondence go far to show that the foregoing observations are amply justified. He was much in evidence whenever important public questions were under consideration. His advice was frequently sought by those in both high and low station. And it was his particular delight to be of assistance to the oppressed. Both Presidents Lincoln and Johnson regarded him as a very wise and safe counselor. And he was a trusted friend of both administrations.

Judge Doolittle's opposition to the extension of slavery was manifested early in his public life. Indeed, when a resident of Western New York, his pronounced anti-slavery views were well known. The following letter may have been received by him because of his well known attitude on the slavery question. His private papers do not explain that. Be that as it may, the letter is certainly interesting reading. The author of it died quite recently in Chicago. It follows:

Chicago, Jan. 30th, 1860.

Hon. J. R. Doolittle,

Washington, D. C.

Yours of the 28th is received. I do not know to what points my testimony would be useful. You know that I was the Secy of the N. K. Com. & had an accurate knowledge of all the operations of that committee, as well with reference to John Brown as to the general Kansas difficulties. Every thing that was used of money, clothing, or arms went through my hands.

I knew Brown during all the time. He had no connection with the committee. He would not have because we did not agree with him, or at least, he thought we would not, upon the course to be taken by the North.





I was present at New York in Jan. 1857, when he asked for the arms (200 Sharps rifles), and opposed his having them unless he would pledge himself not to use them in aggressive movements. The committee would not grant him, or any person, aid from its funds for any purpose but to defend the settlers of Kansas. This was the whole policy of the Committee. I know that Brown had no sympathy with the Republican party, and although he considered the Committee more favorable to his line of policy than the Republican party, he regarded the committee so far from the right that (he) would not entrust any of his designs to them.

He has said that no one, except, perhaps, one person, knew his purposes or his plans of operations.

In all his intercourse with the committee before Jan. 1857, he put himself in the light of an outsider, & only asked aid as a sufferer in common with the other free state settlers.

When these arms were asked, it was believed by the committee that all he intended to do was to form a company of the residents of Kansas, who should be in readiness to repel any invasion that might be made by Missouri. The only difference in the committee was whether the difficulty was not over, and such a precaution was unnecessary. Even in that aspect the committee hesitated to grant him the guns, & they were returned to the original purchaser, and by him loaned to Brown under the direction of the Mass. Central Com.

I have given you the view I take of what my testimony will amount to so far as relates to the committee's connection with Brown. I should, if put on the stand, give the details, which I think would show these facts.

I do not wish to come to Washington unless I am obliged to, or can do the cause of truth good. I do not wish a lie to go before the country. My business is pressing, & I cannot well leave. I would only come on a subpoena.

Yours, &c.,

H. B. HURD.



The foregoing letter is valuable as giving some light upon the actions of John Brown, and upon his policies and methods of procedure. Indeed, it shows that Brown found some of his most pronounced opponents among those who were most strongly identified with the anti-slavery cause. It is likely that there are some still living who can verify much that is stated in Mr. Hurd's letter.

There was a wide spread difference of opinion as to what should be the policy of the administration with reference to the conduct of war. It is well known that the great Lincoln was beset with all sorts of suggestions, practical and impractical, wild, visionary and inexpedient.

The following is an extract from a letter by one of President Lincoln's first cabinet ministers. It foreshadows the old warrior's feeling as the final blow at rebellion was being struck. It is decidedly characteristic.

Harrisburg, April, 10-65.

My dear Sir:

I have your notice \* \* \* \* Tell Miss Mary that the young people miss her much.

We have now the glorious news of Lee's surrender. The only fear I now have is that we will be over-generous to the rebels, forgetting how much blood they have spilled.

Remember us all to Mrs. Doolittle.

Truly yrs.,

SIMON CAMERON.

Hon. J. R. Doolittle,  
&c., &c., &c.

The letter which follows indicates the esteem in which Judge Doolittle was held by the press of the Middle West. The author is, evidently, or was, at the time of its writing, a member of the editorial staff of the Chicago Tribune. It also is important as expressing the hope that the new president, Andrew Johnson, would not be disappointing. It is to be noted that it follows Lincoln's assassination only a few days.





Office of Daily Tribune,  
Chicago, Apr. 19, 1865.

Hon. J. R. Doolittle.

My Dear Sir:

Your letter inclosing a copy of your address was rec'd this morning. We found it yesterday in the Racine Journal & published it in this morning's issue. It is capital & will tend to inspire great confidence in our new president. God bless and guide him.

Your Obt. Servt.,

WM. BROSS.

The following letter is from an eminent son of Illinois. It is political in its nature. Reference is made, no doubt, to the political mistakes of President Johnson. The "excursion" referred to had to deal with the "swinging around the circle" event of Mr. Johnson. It was well understood that Judge Browning and Senator Doolittle advised against the Johnson speaking tour. As they predicted, it made impossible Mr. Johnson's availability as a presidential candidate.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 13, 1866.

My Dear Senator:

Your interesting letter of the 7th inst. was duly received.

In the pressure of public affairs, and the continual demands which they make upon my time, I am able to do little more than acknowledge its receipt.

The elections have gone against us, but I am neither disappointed nor disheartened. I trust our friends will not be cast down by these disasters. Let us meet them bravely, and with good heart, and we will ultimately triumph. We are not struggling for the triumph of a party, but for the success of principles which are inherently and fundamentally right and just, and which must, ultimately, win acceptance.

Had we acted wisely we could have achieved a victory this fall—but folly, not wisdom, ruled all our movements after the Philadelphia Convention.



That placed us upon the vantage ground which we might have kept if we would, but we blasted all its buds and blossoms of promise before they had time to mature into fruit. The efforts made in some parts of the country to use the Convention merely as a lever to lift the old democratic party again into power was disastrous, and the indiscretions you so properly and forcibly allude to were still more so.

But as we could neither prevent nor control these things we are, of course, not responsible for them.

The night before the excursion to Chicago I went in person, and begged that no speeches be made, except in acknowledgment of honors paid and kindnesses shown. Had this advice been heeded the trip west would have brought us victory everywhere that we have suffered defeat. But there is no use in grieving over the escaped deer. We'll pick our flints and try it again; trusting that our friends, who have been thus taught in the school of adversity may be wiser in the future.

I have not time to add another word, except to beg that you will present my kind regards to Mrs. Doolittle and the young ladies. Always glad to hear from you.

Truly yours,

O. H. BROWNING.

A dispatch from Burleigh this moment received informs me he is elected by a two thirds vote.

Hon. J. R. Doolittle,

Racine, Wis.

The foregoing political letter is interesting, because, as the date clearly shows, it was at a period when Congress was at sixes and sevens with President Johnson, and there was a new, but none the less certain, alignment of political parties going on, due, largely to the difference of views with reference to the reconstruction policy of the administration. Mr. Browning was, for a time, a member of President Johnson's cabinet, and he was highly esteemed by his colleagues of the civil war period.





A copy of a rough draft of a letter in Judge Doolittle's own handwriting follows. It was written from Chicago in 1873 where Judge Doolittle had established himself in the practice of the law. It is in some sense a pen-picture of Mr. Lincoln and is worthy of preservation on your pages. It was sent to Mr. Jesse W. Fell, of Bloomington, Ill. Here it is:

Dear Sir: I accept with pleasure your autobiography of Lincoln. The engraving gives as true an expression of his features while in repose, as I have ever seen. No engraving could do justice to them when animated in conversation.

The *fac simile* of his handwriting is perfect; while the style and contents of his letter show that same vividness of recollection, and clearness of thought, which placed him, among the great men of our day. They reveal, also, that simplicity, conciseness and quaintness of statement, mingled with playful good humor, which, in private conversation, charmed all who heard him, but did not conceal from those who knew him well, that undertone of sadness, which touched, and, often, ruled his inner life.

To me, and I doubt not to thousands, your work speaks a volume. How we would prize it, if we could have with it such an autobiography of him whose birthday anniversary occurs today?\*

With many thanks for your kindness, I remain,

Truly yours,

J. R. DOOLITTLE.

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\*George Washington.



## AN AUTHOR AT HIS RESIDENCE—PROF. JOHN RUSSELL, OF BLUFF DALE.

By John Reynolds.\*

(From the *Belleville Advocate* of April 29, 1857.)

There exists in the public breast much respect for a meritorious author, and even his residence and habits are interesting.

In times of barbarism, physical strength and personal courage were the themes of poets and the subjects of historians; but in this more enlightened day, philosophy has demonstrated that thought governs the world, and that the highest honors are due to it. It is therefore not strange that the greatest fame and glory are now given to an author, whose life has been employed to advance the best interests of the human family.

Prof. John Russell, of Bluff Dale, the subject of this unpretending sketch, received an accomplished and a classic education at the college of Middlebury, Vermont. By incessant labors at the heads of the highest institutions of learning in the valley of the Mississippi, and by the classic and beautiful productions of his pen, he aided greatly in settling on a solid basis the literature and science of the country. He may be hailed with propriety, as one of the foremost and efficient pioneers, laboring in the western fields of literature. His mind is original, with an intense and acute sensibility, which has rendered him exceedingly modest and unassuming. He occupies the position which the poet Burns describes:

“Dearly bought the hidden treasure

Finer feelings can bestow—

Chords, that vibrate the sweetest pleasure,

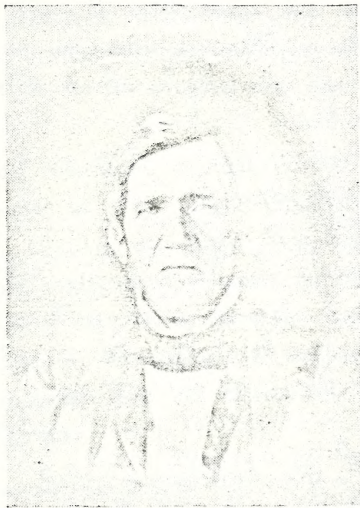
Thrill the deepest notes of woe.”

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\*For the transcript of this paper the State Historical Society is grateful to Mrs. M. Ethel Huff, Librarian of the Belleville Public Library.







Prof. John Russell, Died Bluffdale, Greene County,  
Illinois, January 2, 1863.



Is it wise, then, to risk even the bare possibility of  
surrendering up our country with all her bright and  
glorious hopes to the influence of dark - uncultivated  
men?

I shall venture to advance a step farther and  
lay it down as an incontrovertible proposition.  
That every child in these United States, is born with  
a just, and inherent claim upon the government  
of his country, to a good, common education.  
This claim though not expressed in the very  
letter, is guaranteed to him by the spirit of our  
institutions.

The Declaration of Independence - the  
great charter of American liberty - an instrument  
that approaches nearer to the wisdom of the Omni-  
scient than any other human production - this  
instrument declares that the object of all just

Fac-Simile of Handwriting of Prof. John Russell.





There are but few of the articles from his pen, published in the various literary papers and periodicals, however much they may have improved and charmed the public, which bear his name. They have been permitted to wend their way to fame by their intrinsic merit. Thus it was the untoward modesty of Prof. Russell, that for a period retarded his popularity as a writer; but at last his sun has shone out with the more brilliancy, and he at this day enjoys the high position of one of the most elegant and classic writers of the west.

Prof. Russell is a profound scholar and a master of most of the ancient and modern languages. He is familiar with the classics of both ages, and particularly with the Greek and French. His turn of thought and style of composition partake much of the Greek model, and the flowing and elegant periods, which abound in his writings, remind us of the French classics.

His composition frequently conveys the power of true pathos to the heart of the reader and his eyes are often filled with dripping tears before he is aware of the cause. The warm and genial glow of an honest and innocent heart breathes through all the writings of Prof. Russell, and in no time or circumstances are seen any frost or icicles congealed in his bosom.

Among the various productions of his pen, which have appeared in so many of the first periodicals of the day, none has attracted more attention or won for the author more fame, than the "Venomous Worm." That short article has been translated into most of the languages of Europe, and is found in almost all the school books. It is a grand conception and strikes a powerful blow at an alarming modern vice. This piece, like most of the others from the pen of Prof. Russell, was presented to the public without the name of the writer, but its merits were so manifest that it soon forced upon the public its paternity, and with its discovery much fame and respect to the head and heart of the author was bestowed.



It is said when the aged father of Prof. Russell read in Vermont, the anonymous article headed "The Venomous Worm," and was told who was the author, that the aged sire shed tears profusely at his good fortune to have such a son.

Prof. Russell has an ample competence, but is not wealthy, as he has never bent his knee before the altar of gold. His habits of life are plain and innocent, without the least ostentation or display. He is taciturn and retiring, but when raised, the ancient Celtic blood, coursing in the veins of the Russells, bursts forth into passion. This occurs but seldom. He is exceedingly plain in his diet, which has been the great cause of his good health for so many years, and his consequent vigor of mind and body. He is now verging on three score and ten years, and enjoys unimpaired the powers of his mental faculties.

Almost forty years since, Prof. Russell selected the romantic and beautiful site known far and near as "Bluff Dale" in Greene county, and has embellished and adorned it with neat buildings and much charming shrubbery. His stone mansion is erected with becoming proportions, not far from the perpendicular bluff of solid limestone, several hundred feet high. At the base of the bluff, near the mansion, gushes out of the rocks a perpetual fountain, which winds its way through the premises of the Professor towards the Illinois river, blending together both beauty and utility. The fabled water nymphs might enjoy an appropriate resting place in this clear and beautiful stream.

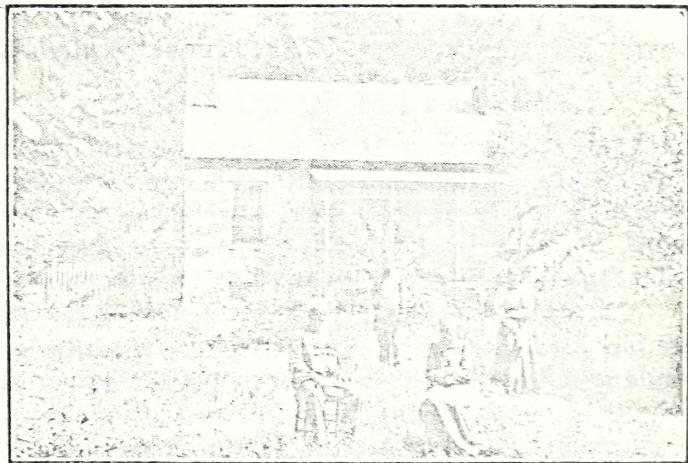
Prof. Russell spends much time in good weather on the summit of this bluff, enjoying the extended prospect up and down the valley of the Illinois river. These alluvial lands of the Illinois now occupy the ancient channel of the St. Lawrence, when all the waters of the Lakes flowed down this valley, and neither the Falls of Niagara nor the river had an existence.





Here the author gives names to these people and a  
cholely insight into their lives and a full account of their  
ings. He also gives an account of the life of the  
men who lived in the house and the life of the house.

It is a very interesting book and a very good one  
to read. It is a very good book to read and a very  
good one to read.



Home of Prof. John Russell, Bluff Dale, Greene County,  
Illinois.



Here the author gives license to those pensive melancholy thoughts which have so much influenced his writings. He enjoys, on this towering cliff, the same sentiment with which the English bard was so impressed.

“In these deep solitudes and awful dells  
Where heavenly, pensive Contemplation dwells.”

It is to be hoped that the life of Professor Russell may be prolonged yet for many years.

Belleville, March 30, 1857.

#### MEMORIES OF BLUFFDALE.

To the foregoing paper of Gov. Reynolds the following memories of Prof. Russell's residence are appropriately added. They are from the pen of the Professor's granddaughter, Mrs. Pauline Russell Lair, of Council Hill, Oklahoma, written for the "Postal Reunion" edition of the Carrollton (Ill.) *Patriot* of Dec. 9, 1909.

Our editor's question recalls to my mind the old stone house where I lived so many years. It is the quaint old house at the foot of the bluffs, and is built of the limestone quarried from the cliffs that tower above it. Its gray walls so much resemble the cliffs that its kinship to them can be detected at a glance. "The old castle," Elder Wm. Rhoades used to call it.

The pleasantest room in the old house, to my thinking, was the library upstairs, with its big sunny south window that has a sill wide enough for a cosy seat. How I used to love to curl up in it and read!

The walls on one side and across one end of the library are fitted up with shelves from the floor to the ceiling, and extending the entire length and breadth of the room.

These shelves were entirely filled with books—books of every kind and description and almost of every language—the frothiest of novels and the deepest works on metaphysics, maybe, resting peacefully side by side.





The finest divinity library I ever saw was here, and also the wickedest and most loathsome works on infidelity. The latest publications could be found on these shelves, as well as books printed in the Seventeenth century. We had Cotton Mather's "Magnalia," giving a detailed account of the doings of the Salem witches, in which he believed as strongly as he did in his own existence. We also had Darwin, who was trying to prove that everything was material and that man had not yet evolved a soul. There were books with the old-fashioned long "s" that looked so much like an f that you could hardly read them without lisping.

On the top of the book shelves were stored the relics of the Mound Builders, consisting of shell drinking cups, beads, pipes and any quantity of stone axes, arrows, etc. There was also here a carved powder horn, picked up on one of the battle-fields of the Revolutionary war, that had cut in it, the owner's name and the date of the carving. There was also a rock out of the Mormon temple at Nauvoo, a genuine tomahawk, an old-fashioned sickle or reap hook, and other things that I do not now remember.

In a nook near the window stood the old "cross-legged" table with its big wooden ink-well, and its iron pen-holder, filled with pens, and there were always quantities of writing paper piled up there.

Over by the door stood the "post-office," a tall, old-fashioned writing desk. Its upper part was fitted up with shelves and pigeon-holes where the mail that came to the Bluffdale postoffice was kept till called for.

Opening out of the library was a very large closet, sloping clear back to the eaves of the house, and extending the entire length of the room. In this closet was a great many boxes of magazines, novels, old letters and files of newspapers that my grandfather used to edit. I particularly remember copies of the Louisville Courier, printed in Louisville, Ky., because of its occasional ad-



vertisement for runaway slaves. The advertisements were always accompanied by a picture of a negro with a bundle getting away as fast as he could go.

I always entered this closet with caution, for my grandmother had told us of a black snake that had once been seen to crawl into it, and could never be found. That was forty or fifty years before, but who could tell whether that venerable serpent might not yet be lurking in some crack or crevice of the closet?

Another thing that added to the weirdness of the old closet was a gigantic face that my uncle William had once smoked with a lighted candle on its sloping ceiling.

Oh, well, the old place is haunted with pleasant memories and "ghosts of by-gone days." The old house is there still, but the old folks that made it a home are all gone.





## MR. LINCOLN'S VISIT TO WAUKEGAN IN 1860.

By J. Seymour Currey.

During the time that Mr. Lincoln was present in Chicago, in the latter part of March and early part of April, 1860, attending the sessions of the United States District Court (over which Judge Thomas Drummond presided), as counsel for the defendants in the famous "Sand Bar case," he was invited to visit Waukegan and make an address to the people of that place.

The case on trial in Judge Drummond's court had been before the courts on four different occasions, this time reaching its termination, on April 4, 1860, in a verdict for the defendants. This was the last lawsuit in which Mr. Lincoln made an appearance. The Chicago Press and Tribune, in its issue of April 5, referred to the case as "one of the most notable trials in the annals of our courts." The contest was "as to title to the valuable accretions on the lake shore, north of the pier," the property directly and indirectly at issue being valued at over half a million of dollars. The question submitted to the jury was "whether the plaintiff had a water line on the lake on October 22, 1835, the date of the deed." The title of the case in the court record was "W. S. Johnson, versus William Jones and S. Marsh, Ejectment." The sessions of the court were held in the "Larmon Block," at the northeast corner of Clark and Washington streets.

Mr. Lincoln at this time had but recently returned from the East, where he had made a number of speeches on the burning issues of the day. One of these was the famous "Cooper Institute speech," delivered on the 27th of February, which had added largely to the reputation he had previously gained in the great debates with Douglas in



the summer and fall of 1858. He was frequently mentioned as a possible candidate for the presidency at the convention which was to be held in the following May.

While Mr. Lincoln was in Chicago he received invitations to speak on frequent occasions. He had accepted the invitation of the citizens of Waukegan who had requested his presence there, and we find an announcement in the Chicago Press and Tribune for Monday, April 2, 1860, as follows: "At the earnest solicitation of the citizens of Lake county, Mr. Lincoln, who is at present engaged here in the United States District Court, will speak on political topics at Waukegan this evening. The announcement will of course bring together one of the largest crowds that Waukegan can furnish."

The Waukegan Weekly Gazette, in its issue of April 7, 1860, gives this account of what happened on the occasion of Mr. Lincoln's visit to that place.

"This noble Republican standard bearer of 1858, having been engaged attending court in Chicago, came up to Waukegan on Monday evening last to give us a speech. But he had spoken only a few minutes when the meeting was broken up in consequence of a destructive fire which we mention elsewhere. This is deeply regretted by all save a few of the chivalrous Democracy, who seem to rejoice over the fact that the meeting came to such an untimely end. We think they have reason for it, too, for 'Old Abe' had laid the foundation for a speech which would have so completely wiped out the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty, that all candid Democrats who admit that slavery is wrong (and to this class his remarks were specially directed), would have been forced to admit the inconsistency of the position they occupy.

"Whether the fire was a 'democratic trick' or not the democracy will be forced to resort to more desperate tricks than this to defeat Abe next fall should the mantle of the Chicago Convention fall upon him. Although disappointed in not hearing his speech through, yet we had





the pleasure of seeing him, which really does one's soul good. We hope he may be induced to come back and give the balance of the speech at some other time. Hon. Norman B. Judd accompanied him from Chicago, who would have favored us with some remarks also had the meeting gone on undisturbed."

The fire which broke up the meeting in this abrupt manner is described in another part of the same issue of the Gazette. It is as follows: "About eight o'clock on Monday evening last when hundreds of our citizens were attentively engaged in listening to the speech of our gallant Lincoln, an alarm of fire was sounded. A rush was made for the door but the excitement was partially allayed when it was announced that it was a false alarm. This quiet however was but momentary for it too soon became apparent that a destructive fire was raging. It proved to be the warehouse and buildings belonging to the North pier, owned and occupied by Messrs. Case and Bull."

On the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth—namely, February 12, 1909, the people of Waukegan celebrated the occasion by recalling the visit Mr. Lincoln made to their city in 1860. The Waukegan Daily Sun printed some reminiscences of the occasion, preceded by a brief account of the meeting as follows:

"On the evening of April 2nd, 1860, Lincoln visited Waukegan, and was the principal speaker at a mass-meeting at Dickinson's Hall, an old-time resort, later burned down, and visited a fire that consumed the old Case warehouse.

"That night he slept in the house at the northwest corner of Julian and County streets, as the guest of Mr. Ferry. The house is now owned by L. H. Prentice, and on February 12, 1909, was marked with a bronze tablet inscribed 'April 2, 1860, Abraham Lincoln slept in this house. Tablet placed by the Lake County Historical Society.'



"The building on the site of Dickinson's Hall is marked by a bronze tablet, ten by sixteen inches, inscribed 'This tablet marks the site of Dickinson Hall where Abraham Lincoln spoke April 2, 1860, Lake County Historical Society.'

"Following is a list of people now living in Waukegan who were at this meeting, so far as their names were obtainable in February, 1909: W. E. Sunderlin (who went to the fire with Lincoln), J. W. Hull, Jacob Martin, George Herman, Philip P. Brand (who shaved Lincoln on his visit here), J. M. Simpson, George R. Lyon (who remembers Lincoln's remark 'Slavery is wrong'), Homer Cooke (who also says he went to the fire with Lincoln), W. B. Besley, E. D. Besley, Arthur Blanchard, Mrs. G. H. Stafford, John A. Shea, John Maynard, George S. Wheeler, Clinton Green, D. S. Meade, A. Z. Blodgett, R. J. Douglas, Nicholas Martin, S. S. Greenleaf and Frank Greenleaf.

"J. W. Hull can recall the substance of the speech that Lincoln delivered in the twenty-five minutes before the fire destroyed the Case warehouse, and the meeting broke up. 'I was there when the meeting began,' he said, 'and noted Lincoln moving about the floor, meeting the people. When he arose and ascended to the platform I thought he was the humblest man in appearance I had seen in many a day. When he began to speak he did not impress me, perhaps because he had a squeak in his voice that was like a dash of cold water. I can well remember his speech. Lincoln declared that civilization had pronounced human slavery wrong. However, he said that we alone, the United States, with our boasted freedom, gave it the standing of an institution, and that we did wrong. However, he said, he did not blame the slave-holders; he said that most of them had inherited their slaves as chattels or property, and, it seemed, could not help themselves. Then he called attention to the fact that at that time the





country was half slavery and half freedom, and said that no government divided against itself in such manner could stand.

“The effect on me, at least, and I believe on others, was little short of miraculous. While he was speaking, such was the sledge-hammer force of his logic, that we forgot the humble appearance and the squeaky voice, and were carried away by the man’s simple eloquence, his power of reasoning and his clear exposition of questions we had all debated within our own minds.

“Then the fire came; E. P. Ferry arose and stated his belief that the alarm was a Democratic plot to break up the meeting. The shuffling and uneasiness among the people continued, however, and finally Lincoln said, ‘Well, gentlemen, let us all go, as there really seems to be a fire, and help put it out.’”

Three days afterwards, namely, on the 5th of April, Mr. Lincoln accepted the invitation of Julius White, who later became a general in the Civil War, to spend the night at his house in Evanston. On his journey to Evanston Mr. Harvey B. Hurd acted as his escort, and they rode together in a car on the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad, afterwards the Chicago & North Western Railway. Mr. Lincoln made no speech in Evanston, however, an informal reception being held at the house of Mr. White during the evening. On this occasion many of the residents of the village met Mr. Lincoln in a social way. Many of those who were present are still residing in Evanston, and their recollections of this interesting event have been reduced to writing and are preserved in the archives of the Evanston Historical Society, forming a mass of historical material of great interest.

This was a period in Mr. Lincoln’s career when he stood on the threshold of great events vitally affecting himself and the country. He was in the full maturity of his manhood, he was conceded to be the most dis-



tinguished political orator of his time, and he had become the rising hope of the new Republican party. He had just won the important "Sand Bar case," already referred to, and was probably as near "care free" as he had ever before been in his life or as he was destined ever to be in the future.





ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, EVANSTON-  
CHICAGO, MAY 17, 18, 1911.

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In connection with the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, the Evanston Historical Society, the Chicago Historical Society and the North Central History Teachers' Association, the Illinois State Historical Society held its annual meeting in Evanston and Chicago on May 17th and 18th, 1911. The meetings of the joint associations were held from the 17th to the 20th, but Wednesday and Thursday the 17th and 18th were the days specially devoted to the Illinois State Historical Society.

The first session was held in the rooms of the Evanston Historical Society in the public library building in Evanston, at 2:00 o'clock on the afternoon of the 17th. The address of welcome was delivered by the mayor of Evanston, Hon. Joseph E. Paden. The program as printed was practically carried out.

The annual address was given Wednesday evening, by Col. Clark E. Carr, president of the Society. It was an able and impressive address upon the subject, "Illinois."

The exercises of Thursday were held in the Chicago Historical Society building. The business meeting was held in the morning, at which the reports of officers and committees were heard, and the annual election of officers was held. The officers of the Society were re-elected, except that Hon. Richard Yates was elected third vice president of the Society, and Hon. Andrew Russel, of Jacksonville, was made a member of the board of directors in place of Mr. Yates; and as a director of the Society in the place of Dr. M. H. Chamberlin, who has removed to California, Mr. Walter Colyer, of Albion, was elected.



On Thursday evening at the close of the exercises a most delightful reception was given to all of the assembled associations by the Chicago Historical Society.

The associations are greatly indebted to the citizens of Evanston for many courtesies and delightful entertainment. Particular mention must be made of the mayor and his wife, Hon. and Mrs. Jos. E. Paden, Prof. J. A. James, Mr. H. J. Patten, Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Dawes, Mr. J. Seymour Currey, and Miss Mary B. Lindsay, and in Chicago of the untiring courtesy and many kindnesses of the officers of the Chicago Historical Society, President Thos. Dent, Dr. Otto L. Schmidt, Miss McIlvaine, Miss Jenkins and many others.

This joint meeting of associations interested in the same line of historical work was a most interesting one and was well attended by representative workers from the states and societies associated. The attendance of persons other than the special workers mentioned was not as large as was desired but the weather was very warm, unusually so for May, and the fact that the meeting was held during the closing days of the General Assembly, before which many bills of interest to members of the Society were pending, furnished good reasons for the absence of many of the usual attendants upon the sessions of the Society. The program is given below:

### WEDNESDAY, MAY SEVENTEENTH.

A PROGRAM PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS.

#### FIRST SESSION.

2:30 p. m. Evanston Historical Society Rooms. Col. Clark E. Carr, President of the State Historical Society of Illinois, Presiding.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME, Joseph E. Paden, Mayor of Evanston.





PAPER: Thomas Sloo, Jr., A Typical Politician of Early Illinois, Isaac J. Cox, Professor in the University of Cincinnati.

PAPER: The Fordhams and La Serres of the English Settlement in Edwards County, Illinois, Walter Colyer, Albion, Illinois.

PAPER: The Development of State Constitutions, Christopher B. Coleman, Professor in Butler College, Indianapolis.

PAPER: Massachusetts, the Germans, and the Chicago Convention of 1869, Frank I. Herriott, Professor in Drake University, Des Moines.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY SEVENTEENTH.

MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

#### SECOND SESSION.

8:00 p. m. Assembly Room in Lunt Library, Northwestern University. Abram W. Harris, President of Northwestern University, Presiding.

ADDRESS: Illinois, Colonel Clark E. Carr.

### THURSDAY, MAY EIGHTEENTH.

MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

#### THIRD SESSION.

10:00 a. m. Chicago Historical Society Building. Clark E. Carr, Presiding.

PAPER: Abraham Lincoln's Early Connection with the Republican Party, I. P. Wharton, Los Angeles, California. Read by J. B. Oakleaf, Moline, Illinois.

PAPER: Life and Labors of William H. Collins, one of the founders of the Illinois Historical Society, Rev. James Robert Smith, Quincy.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING of the Illinois Historical Society. Reports of Committees and Officers.



## THURSDAY, MAY EIGHTEENTH.

MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

## FIRST SESSION.

2:30 p. m. Chicago Historical Society Building. Colonel Clark E. Carr, Presiding.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME: Thos. Dent, Chicago Historical Society.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: The Iowa School of Research Historians, Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Iowa City, Iowa; Professor in the State University of Iowa and President of the Association.

PAPER: Robert J. Walker, Imperialist, William E. Dodd, Professor in the University of Chicago.

PAPER: Myths of the American Indians as Material for Supplementary Reading in Our Secondary Schools, Orin G. Libby, Grand Forks, North Dakota; Professor in the State University of North Dakota.

PAPER: Some Notes on the Fort Dearborn Massacre, M. N. Quaife, Chicago; Professor in Lewis Institute.

PAPER: Some Materials for the Social History of the Mississippi Valley During the Nineteenth Century, Solon J. Buck, Urbana, Illinois; Research Assistant in the University of Illinois.

## THURSDAY, MAY EIGHTEENTH.

MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

## SECOND SESSION.

8:00 p. m. Chicago Historical Society Building. Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Presiding.

ADDRESS: Old Steamboat Days on the Mississippi River, Illustrated. George B. Merrick, Madison, Wisconsin.

At the close of the address an informal reception was given to the members of the various associations by the Chicago Historical Society.





## FRIDAY, MAY NINETEENTH.

## MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

## THIRD SESSION.

10:30 a. m. Rooms of the Evanston Historical Society.

PAPER: The Mississippi Valley and Internal Improvements, 1825-1840, R. B. Way, Bloomington, Indiana; Professor in the University of Indiana.

PAPER: A Comparison of Some of the Source Material on Braddock's Campaign, Archer B. Hulbert, Marietta, Ohio; Professor in Marietta College and President of the Ohio Valley Historical Association.

PAPER: The Early Harbor History of Wisconsin, A. G. Plumb, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

PAPER: Were the Outagami of Iroquois Stock? N. H. Winchell, St. Paul, Minnesota.

BUSINESS MEETING of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.

12:30 p. m. LUNCHEON Tendered to the members of the Associations by Mayor and Mrs. Joseph E. Paden at the Evanston Club, Grove Street and Chicago Avenue.

## FRIDAY, MAY NINETEENTH.

## MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

## FOURTH SESSION.

3:00 p. m. Evanston Historical Society Rooms. J. Seymour Currey, President of the Evanston Historical Society, Presiding.

PAPER: Personal Recollections of the Civil War, Mrs. R. A. Stewart. Evanston. Mrs. Stewart served as a nurse under the Christian Commission.

3:30 p. m. A CONFERENCE of Mississippi Valley Historical Societies. Edgar R. Harlan of Des Moines, Presiding. Brief statements on the activities of the various societies will be presented.

5:00 p. m. RECEPTION tendered to members of the Associations by Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Dawes, at their home, Greenwood Boulevard and Sheridan Road.



# FRIDAY, MAY NINETEENTH.

MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

FIFTH SESSION.

8:15 p. m. Assembly Room in Lunt Library, Northwestern University. Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Presiding.

ADDRESS: Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas as Lawyers. Orrin N. Carter, Evanston, Associate Justice of the Illinois State Supreme Court.

# SATURDAY, MAY TWENTIETH.

JOINT MEETING OF THE NORTH CENTRAL HISTORY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

10:30 a. m. Lecture Room, First Floor, Swift Hall of Engineering, Northwestern University. James A. Woodburn, Professor in the University of Indiana and President of the North Central Teachers Association, Presiding.

PAPER: High School Texts and Equipment in History, Addison L. Fulwider, Principal of the Freeport High School.

DISCUSSION: Josephine Cox, Teacher of History, Indianapolis High School.

PAPER: What Should a High School Course in Civil Government Comprise? William C. Lynch, Associate Professor of History, Terre Haute, Indiana, State Normal School.

DISCUSSION: Carl F. Geiser, Professor of Political Science, Oberlin College.

PAPER: Preparation for the High School Teacher of History, Norman M. Trenholme, Professor of History, University of Missouri.

GENERAL DISCUSSION.

REPORT on the practical working of the recommendations of the Committee of Eight, J. A. James, Professor of History, Northwestern University.





ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE  
ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
MAY, 1910—MAY, 1911.

Springfield, Illinois, May 18, 1911.

*To the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Historical Society:*

GENTLEMEN—In my report made to you a year ago, I spoke of the steady gain in the membership and influence of the Society, and the experience of the past year has been of a continued onward and upward march. Our membership, however, ought to be much larger than it is. Few of our members have sought to gain new members for the Society. Some notable and honorable exceptions to this rule can be given, chief among whom may be mentioned, Mr. Wm. A. Meese, Mr. Wm. R. Sandham, Dr. W. H. Stennett, Mr. I. S. Blackwelder, Mr. Wm. G. Edens, Dr. Daniel Berry, and others. Had we each one secured as many new members as these gentlemen our Society would number thousands instead of hundreds. We have now more than 1,200 members of all classes:

22 honorary members,

8 life members,

47 newspaper members,

1163 active annual members.

A total membership of 1240.

We have lost by death a number of our members, who are, as far as known to me, namely:

John W. Good, Moline, Ill. . . . . deceased April 22, 1910  
Wm. R. Head, Chicago, Ill. . . . . deceased May 10, 1910  
Henry Hall, Jacksonville, Ill. . . . . deceased May 29, 1910  
Rev. John Fairbanks, Jacksonville, Ill. . . . . deceased 1910  
C. J. McManis, Princeton, Ill. . . . . deceased 1910



H. G. McPike, Alton, Ill.....	deceased 1910
J. M. Pearson, Godfrey, Ill.....	deceased 1910
Luke Dickerman, Stillman Valley, Ill.....	
.....	deceased July 4, 1910
Lugh K. Brainerd, Springfield, Ill. .	deceased Dec. 3, 1910
Thomas J. Crowder, Springfield, Ill.....	
.....	deceased Feb. 22, 1911
James S. Culver, Springfield, Ill.....	
.....	deceased March 17, 1911
Hally Haight, Naperville, Ill.....	deceased May 3, 1911
Mrs. Harriet Rumsey Taylor, Springfield, Ill.....	
.....	deceased May 15, 1911

I again urge you to notify the Secretary of the Society of deaths in our membership. It is not possible for me to learn of them unless notice is sent me. We wish to publish brief notices in the Journal and to keep our records accurate. Please bear this in mind.

#### LEGISLATIVE WORK.

The present General Assembly just drawing to a close has enacted considerable legislation in relation to historical matters. Mr. Meese, Chairman of our Legislative Committee, and to whose efficient labors is largely due the result, will tell you of the important step which this General Assembly has taken in the creation of a commission to prepare plans looking toward the erection of a building for the Historical Society and Library and some kindred interests. This bill passed the Senate some days ago and I hope by this time it has passed the House, as we had the promise of House leaders that it would.

In 1912, next year, Madison county will celebrate her centennial anniversary, it having been set off as a separate county by proclamation of Gov. Ninian Edwards in 1812. Madison county has asked an appropriation of \$5,000 to erect a monument near Edwardsville, the county seat, to the memory of Gov. Edwards, Gov. Coles, and the





pioneers who took part in the border warfare, when Fort Russell, near the present Edwardsville, was one of the principal frontier forts.

In 1812 Illinois territory became a territory of the second grade and in that year the first territorial legislature was held. Madison county will include in its celebration, the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of representative government in Illinois. This bill has passed the Senate.

A bill has also passed the Senate appropriating money for the purchase of the site of Fort Chartres, one of the most important of the early French posts. A joint resolution has been passed asking the board of trustees of the Historical Library to attempt to decide upon the route traveled by the family of Mr. Lincoln in its migration from Kentucky to Illinois by way of Indiana. The Governor in his message recommended that this be done, and that the route be suitably marked and called the "Lincoln Way."

The most ambitious of the historical plans has been the attempt to secure an appropriation for the purchase of Starved Rock and vicinity, about 1,100 acres. A bill carrying an appropriation of \$225,000 has passed the House and has yet to be acted upon by the Senate. To the indefatigable labors of Prof. J. A. James is largely due the sentiment throughout the State demanding the preservation of Starved Rock as a State park. To this end Professor James, the chairman of the State Park Commission, has labored in season and out of season, written letters, given addresses, interviewed influential persons, furnished historical arguments to other speakers, for the past two years, and when, as a result of the labors of the State Park Commission, the plan was embodied in a bill and presented to the present session of the General Assembly, Professor James used every effort to place the matter before the members of the General Assembly,



and he delivered strong, forceful and logical arguments, full of historical information, before the appropriation committees of each branch of the General Assembly, with the result that the State will have a magnificent park in that beautiful and truly historic country. Professor James was ably assisted by Mr. A. Richards, the secretary, who did much practical work of great value, as well as by the other members of the Commission.

#### THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL.

The Quarterly Journal of the Society meets with favor from the Society and from all persons interested in the cause of State History. It is quoted very freely by the newspapers of the State and we have daily requests for copies of it and for permission to reprint articles from its columns. You are again urged to contribute to it items of historical interest or original material.

The Secretary appeared before the appropriation committees of the legislature in the interest of a bill for an appropriation for a new building for the Library and Society. She took as her principal text the burning of the capitol at Albany and the destruction of priceless records and the present defenseless condition of our own records, and the committees were impressed with the necessity of providing better quarters, with proper means of caring for our records and other historical treasures, and have created the commission already mentioned.

We are so crowded in our present quarters that it really seems that the limit of the storing capacity of our rooms has been reached. I would like each one of you to see for himself the congested condition of our rooms. We can no longer keep an even fairly tidy appearance. Tables and floor must be kept loaded. Our wall space for pictures is all used and our shelves for books and newspaper files are all overloaded. No plan has been advanced which tells us what we can do until the new building is a reality.





The 1909 transactions of the Society have been printed and will reach you I hope within a short time. A new edition of fifteen thousand copies of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate volume has been printed and distributed. The demand for this volume has been surprising and it has not abated.

The History of Illinois newspapers, 1814-1879, edited by Mr. F. W. Scott and published as Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 6, has been distributed. It is an admirable and useful volume, and receives high commendation from the press and interested parties generally. Vol. 7 of the Collections, the second of the executive series of Governors' Letter Books, has also been issued, Mr. C. M. Thompson and Prof. E. B. Greene being the editors. Its introductory chapters present a most interesting history of the time covered by the State papers, and throw much light upon the internal improvement scheme which so nearly wrecked the State, and upon the Mormon question. The George Rogers Clark Papers, edited by Prof. J. A. James, will probably be the next of the Collections to be issued. Professor James has devoted several years of patient, scholarly labor to the preparation of this volume, and it will probably be, next to the Lincoln-Douglas Debate volume, No. 3 of the Collections, the most popular of the series, as all of our people are interested in the adventures and services of Colonel George Rogers Clark.

#### SPECIAL MEETINGS.

The membership of the Society is so large that it seems that the one annual meeting gives hardly enough opportunity for the members to meet, and it seems that the members in the different localities of the State can and ought to aid local societies or committees to observe local historical events. I suggest that a committee be appointed to consider a plan for such special meetings. The secretary of the Society attended the celebration of



the 70th anniversary of the organization of Woodford county. This was held under the auspices of the Woodford County Historical Society, February 27, 1911. The meeting was a very successful one. Addresses were made by pioneers of the county and everyone present seemed to enjoy the exercises and appreciate the work that the Woodford County Society is doing. I hope we will have a report of this celebration from a delegate from the Society and that other societies may be represented at this meeting and give us some account of their activities.

The Colored Historical Society of Illinois, located at Springfield, has asked me to report for it that it has sixty active members who are much interested in preserving the history of their race in its struggles for growth and betterment. I believe this is the only colored historical society in the State.

We have received some gifts for which we desire to express our thanks. Members of the Society are urged to help in the collection of local historical material. A circular letter was sent you some time ago asking such materials. We are very anxious to obtain old letters which describe early conditions in the localities of the State, the pioneers' manner of living, modes of transportation, cost of commodities, etc. If you know of any such local material we will be glad to be informed of it. We will gladly have copies made of historical documents if the originals can not be obtained.

Miss Louise I. Enos, a member of the Society, has presented on behalf of her father's heirs, a valuable Lincoln document. It is an original surveying paper. It was mentioned in the April Journal of the Society. The Hon. Norman G. Flagg has a collection of early Illinois letters written mostly by his father. He has allowed the Society to publish them and they will be edited by Mr. S. J. Buck and published in the transactions of the Society.

Such material is of the greatest value and interest. Please help the Society and Library in the collection of such material.





Governor Richard Yates has presented the Society with a manuscript record book containing the earliest military orders of his father, the great War Governor. There are not many entries but what there are are of the greatest interest.

We acknowledge gifts in the Journal, and so I will not take your time by enumerating them now.

On April 14, the Society held a meeting in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the breaking out of the war between the States. The meeting was one of the most interesting we have ever held and the attendance was as large as we have ever had. Addresses were made by Colonel Carr, Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin and Col. Bluford Wilson at the afternoon meeting, and in the evening Judge Marcus Kavanagh delivered an address. The old war time music was sung. The patriotic societies were invited and were well represented. It shows what can be done in the way of a special meeting to commemorate an historic event.

Our committees will, I hope, report on their activities. I urge greater activity among the members of the committees.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSIE PALMER WEBER,

Secretary Illinois State Historical Society.



MEMORIAL MEETING APRIL 14, 1911, IN COM-  
MEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE BREAKING OUT OF THE  
WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

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The Illinois State Historical Society held a very interesting and largely attended meeting on April 14, 1911, in the old Supreme Court room in the Capitol building at Springfield, in commemoration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumter, the real opening of the Civil War.

Gen. Smith D. Atkins, of Freeport, told of the part taken by northern Illinois in the great struggle. His address was a most valuable contribution to Illinois history. General Atkins had been a participant in many of the historic events of which he spoke. His address was an admirable one.

The address of Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin, of Peoria, was entitled "The Slave Empire," and it was of thrilling interest. Mr. Baldwin traced the causes of the war and gave the social and economic reasons which led to it.

The address of Col. Bluford Wilson, of Springfield, on the part taken by Southern Illinois in the war, was full of valuable information and statistics and was a revelation to most of the audience as to the great service to the State and the Union of that part of the State of Illinois known as "Egypt."

In the evening Judge Marcus Kavanagh, of Chicago, delivered an address on the Civil War in America. This address was one of the most eloquent and scholarly addresses which the Historical Society has been privileged to hear.





One of the interesting parts of the program was the singing of the old war songs by the audience, led by a quartette of ladies from the Woman's Relief Corps, with Mrs. G. Clinton Smith as leader. Some of these ladies had sung these songs during the days of the war. A register book was kept and old soldiers were asked to register and nearly fifty of the veterans signed it. Their autographs will be kept as a part of the records of the meeting.

The program in full is as follows:

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1911, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE  
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEGINNING OF  
THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

At the Afternoon Session the Subject was the *Part taken  
by Illinois in the Great War.*

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 2:30 O'CLOCK.

Music—The Old War Songs, under direction of the  
Woman's Relief Corps Quartette. Mrs. G. Clinton  
Smith, Leader.

Music—"Just Before the Battle, Mother."

The Introduction of the Speakers was made by Hon.  
Clark E. Carr, President Illinois State Historical  
Society.

Music—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground."

Address—"The Patriotism of Northern Illinois.....

.....Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Freeport, Ill.

Music—"The Battle Cry of Freedom."

Address—"The Slave Empire.....

.....Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin, Peoria, Ill.

Music—"The Vacant Chair."

Address—"Southern Illinois in the Civil War.....

.....Hon. Bluford Wilson, Springfield, Ill.

Music—"Marching Through Georgia."



EVENING SESSION, 8:00 o'CLOCK.

Music—Quartette. "Illinois."

Introduction of the Speaker by Col. Clark E. Carr.

Music—Song, "Kathleen Mavourneen".....  
.....Miss Bessie O'Brien

Encore—"Lorena."

Address—"The Civil War.".....  
.....Hon. Marcus Kavanagh, Chicago, Ill.

Music—Song, "Ave Maria".....Miss Bessie O'Brien





## CELEBRATION, AT POLO, ILL., OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEGINNING OF WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

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Under the auspices of Polo Post, G. A. R., Polo Historical Society and the citizens of Polo, united with them in observing the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the civil war, at Polo opera house, on Friday evening, April 14th, 1911. Comrade Homer S. Waterbury presided.

The program was as follows:

Overture .....	Burns Orchestra
"Our Flag" .....	Gaynor
Chorus of Fifth Grade pupils.	
Invocation .....	Rev. J. E. Fluck
"Call to Arms" .....	Veazie
Chorus forty pupils, Sixth and Seventh Grades.	
Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.....	Mrs. H. L. Guyer
Song—"Uncle Sam and Stars and Stripes".....	Mary Larkin
Historic Paper—"Polo in War Times".....	J. W. Clinton
"The Star-Spangled Banner,".....	Polo edition of 1860
Mixed Chorus.	
Address—"Twentieth Century Citizenship".....	
.....Rev. F. M. Keller	
Solo—"Columbia".....	Mrs. Charles Joiner
"Battle Hymn of the Republic".....	Mixed Chorus
Benediction.....	Rev. J. E. Fluck

A large audience listened with close attention to the entire program. From the opening remarks of the presiding officer, to the close, nothing was said to glorify war, but rather to emphasize the blessings of peace. In this spirit the margins of the program bore quotations from Lincoln's Gettysburg speech and such



quotations as these: "True statesmanship is the art of changing a nation from what it is into what it ought to be"—Alger; "War is hell"—General Sherman; "Let us have peace"—Grant; "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable"—Webster; "A disposition to preserve, and an ability to improve, taken together, would be my standard of a statesman"—Burke.

The address of Rev. Keller dealt with the problems which face the nation today. Eloquently he enforced the truth that righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a menace to liberty and national life.

#### "POLO IN WAR TIME,"

was the title of the historical paper by J. W. Clinton, the long time editor of the local paper, which follows:

The great civil war of '61 to '65 was the legitimate fruitage of a long series of events—of divergent interests and of mutual misunderstandings and of differing ideals. From the English, French and Spanish we inherited the institution of African slavery, and from the day Jefferson's declaration of independence declared all men created equal and endowed with inalienable rights, the moral conflict was on which finally ended in the civil war and the overthrow of slavery. On the one hand the Ordinance of 1787—the emancipation of slaves in New England and the other Atlantic states—the colonization schemes proposed by good men south and north. On the other hand the doctrine of State Rights, the increasing pecuniary benefits to be derived from slavery at the south. These were some of the influences which gradually separated our people and sowed the seeds of discord and war. So gradually, year by year, the breach between north and south widened. As slavery became more profitable, selfish men sought more earnestly to perpetuate it, while wise and good men sought by compromises to stay the conflict they saw impending. The south was in power in the government. The radicals on both sides widened





the breach continually, the south by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, the enactment of the Fugitive Slave law, and the Dred Scott decision, and the abolitionists by their unmeasured denunciation of slavery. Then came the annexation of Texas and the war with Mexico, said to have been inspired to add more slave states. The Kansas-Nebraska troubles and the conflicts between the border states men and the free state settlers in Kansas. The brutal attack of Brooks on Sumner in the Senate. All these were disturbing elements and helped divide and embitter the two sections. The Lincoln-Douglas debates, Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom," Seward's "Irrepressible Conflict" and Lincoln's declaration that this nation can not exist part slave and part free, all had their influence in bringing the two conflicting sections to the appeal to arms! Briefly, these were the causes which led to the civil war.

We inherited slavery from England, France and Spain and the spirit of Jefferson's immortal declaration began an irrepressible conflict with slavery long before Seward coined that phrase. Because of this long conflict which was gradually estranging the north and south the joint debate between Lincoln and Douglas commanded the attention—not of Illinois alone, but of the whole country. But I may not generalize further.

When the announcement of the Freeport debate was made such was the general interest that Polo, like all northern Illinois, poured her hundreds into Freeport and some of our people followed to Ottawa and other towns where the debates were continued.

Democrats and Republicans rallied to those meetings and listened to the arguments of those intellectual giants. How vividly do some of the recollections of that day come back to me. The then famous "Little Giant" of the Senate, was the first United States Senator I ever saw and of course I fell into line at his reception at the Brewster House and was presented—afterwards as I wandered



about the hotel I saw through an open door, the long, lean form of Lincoln in conversation with Congressman Washburne, but no one was shaking hands with him, so I lost my chance. But that afternoon the great crowd stood for three hours to listen to him. And thousands gathered on the streets that evening to hear Owen Lovejoy and Fred Douglass continue the discussion. That year Illinois went Republican by more than 12,000, but Lincoln was beaten by the hold-over members of the legislature—his time had not yet come.

From this it will be easy to understand why the Polo Republican Club of 1860 was organized as early as February. In March the *Polo Advertiser* hoisted Lincoln's name for President. In May, both political parties in the county had held their conventions and the *Advertiser* was strong in its advocacy of Lincoln and its denunciation of Squatter Sovereignty, and the *Ogle County Banner*, the Democratic paper, was shouting for Douglas and Democracy and abusing Lincoln. Some of the *Banner's* choice witticisms may interest those of this day, so I quote: "Lincoln has been and probably is now a pretty hard drinker," "an old coward," "En Passant, we hear that Douglas says: 'No man in Illinois has used up so much bad whiskey as himself except Abe Lincoln. A Kentuckian born, an Illinoisan bred, and don't love Old Bourbon! Get out! Tell that to the marines! But it is a good qualification for a Black Republican President—a party which supports Maine Liquor laws merely to cover the drinking and selling of spirituous liquors.'" "Old Abe is the ugliest looking man in the United States, but ugliness was never before regarded as a qualification for the Presidency." "Above we have given all the arguments that have been seriously advanced by the Black Republican press in favor of the election of Abe Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States. Get up enthusiasm for such a man! It 'can't be did!' All the enthusiasm we have yet seen is cold as a wet blanket. The *blacks* can rouse the





enthusiasm of neither women nor boys for *such a man*. There is nothing in him or his history to make it of. 'Our Abe' can't be President of the United States, that's a fact."

The *Advertiser* was equally active politically, but not so personal, it gave more attention to the issues raised. No presidential election since 1840 so enthused the whole country, but we must confine our sketches to Polo. You remember Polo had its Republican club organized in February, and a little later they were holding stated meetings. One of which will serve to show the universal interest in politics at this time. June 30th, the Republican club was to hold an out-of-doors meeting, but the weather forbade but did not dampen the enthusiasm of the people, and they adjourned to the third story of the Sanford house. Nearly half the large audience was composed of women. The venerable Ezra Waterbury presided and spoke of the issues of the campaign. The ladies, Miss Daily (later Mrs. W. W. Pierce) at the melodeon, sang an original song, written for the occasion and set to the air of the Star Spangled Banner. (At this point in the paper the mixed quartette sang for the audience the song of 1860.)

#### THE SONG.

(Air, Star Spangled Banner.)

O, know ye the deeds of that first darksome day,  
 When Corruption forged chains, and Oppression had  
     bound her,  
 Had not her proud sons, for the Right, in array  
     More than mortal to do or to die, rallied round her?  
 How she wept, how she plead, and how they struggled and  
     bled,  
 Till the foes were all conquered and tryanny dead?  
 And gave us their banner with "Long may it wave  
     O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."



Ah, yes, ye remember, and fondly ye dwell  
 On those deeds of their greatness which blazon her  
 story,  
 And patriot bosoms with yours proudly swell,  
 As we tell to our children their fame and her glory.  
 But the banner now waves o'er their own lowly graves,  
 And its colors flaunt over her freemen and slaves!  
 Oh, say, shall the star spangled banner yet wave  
 O'er a land partly free and the home of the slave?

Oh, no! may ye never betray the high trust,  
 Now the hour has arrived, and the contest is pending;  
 But forth to the field, where, if battle ye must,  
 Meet the foe with a smile, while for freedom contend-  
 ing!

And the God of the Right nerve your arm with a might  
 That shall vanquish Oppression, strike Wrong from  
 His sight.

And the star spangled banner, O, then shall it wave  
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

After the song, a committee of the ladies presented the club with a Lincoln green banner they had prepared, Miss Annetine Waterbury acting as their spokesman. On one side of the banner was inscribed Lincoln's words: "Let us have faith that Right makes Might," with Lincoln's name in the center; on the other side, "Honesty the Corner Stone of National Prosperity." The *Ogle County Banner* had sneeringly intimated that even *women and children* could not be enthused over such a candidate as Lincoln, and doubtless Miss Waterbury referred to this in her closing remarks when she said: "It has been said, gentlemen, with somewhat of derision, that 'women and children are in favor of Lincoln!' Women and children! What then? Is the glory of our immortal Washington less because the women and children of all time rejoice to do him reverence? Lives there a man who holds the Father of our country in less veneration





because of that grandest triumphal march the world ever saw through the land he had rescued from tyranny, *mothers, maidens, aye and children too*, strewed his path with flowers and poured out tears of gratitude to their country's deliverer. Was the hand that wielded that sword for freedom less glorious, laid on heads of young children as they passed?

"And when in the hour of our country's need there rises up in defense of liberty a patriot pure in life and words and deeds, may not the women—yes and children too—point to him and say: 'Behold the man our hearts delight to honor?' And shall not the nation give him honor too! We have set our offering in a solid frame and so we would have the pillars of our government firm in the right, growing stronger forever in true greatness and glory. You will accept the banner then although its intrinsic value is nought; you will accept for the hopes and good wishes it betokens. We would that it might be borne to victory; but if it may not, we know that present defeat will not dismay or dishearten you. Therefore, with Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, let us have faith that 'Right makes Might!' "

The *Advertiser*, in its report, said of this speech, only the closing sentences of which we have quoted: "The audience gave almost breathless attention during the delivery of this address and at its conclusion broke out in tumultuous applause."

Young Morton D. Swift, the captain of the club, received the banner and made eloquent response, and in November they carried it to victory!

Another meeting in that campaign which serves to show the intense interest of that time was the speech of Cassius M. Clay on the 6th of September. The notice of this meeting was brief, but the news spread almost as rapidly as it would by phone today, and the people came from as far as Mt. Carroll, Lanark, Sterling, Dixon, Mt. Morris and Oregon. The meeting was held on the



sloping ground west of the water tower, and the *Advertiser* says the processions were three and three-quarters miles long, and there was an evening as well as an afternoon meeting.

The result of a national election in 1860 was not known the next morning, and there followed days of doubt. On the following Saturday, the first bell in Polo was hoisted into the belfry of the Presbyterian church, and its first glad notes announced to the surrounding country Lincoln's election! Later, at 12:00 o'clock a. m., January 1st, 1863, it rang in honor of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

How soon rejoicing was mingled with sorrow! Campaign enthusiasm had not abated before fear for Lincoln's life, the Baltimore riots, the firing on Sumpter, and Lincoln's call for 75,000 three months men, stirred the country anew, and only ten short months after Polo women had given that Lincoln green banner to the Lincoln club, young Swift was raising a company of "Ogle Guards." It is said the first war meeting in Polo, to raise volunteers, was held April 22, in the Presbyterian church to enlist these men. There were no speeches but Jas. A. Bassett and John C. Coakley played the fife and drum, and Swift recorded the names of the volunteers as they were announced. Tradition says Wm. E. Bassett's was the first name entered on the roll. He went to the front and to a rebel prison, but survived and was released at the close of the war, became a preacher of the gospel of peace, and only recently passed to his reward from his home on the Pacific coast.

Following enlistment, came days of drilling in the field south of Judge Campbell's home. And the women were busy preparing a silken flag and a banquet at which the boys should be feasted and then presented with the colors. On the eve of their departure for Freeport, May 11th, Mrs. Phrocine Frisbee, on behalf of the patriotic women of Polo, presented the flag. The record of that





meeting is found only in the memory of those who were there; but it is agreed that Mrs. Frisbee, with a head dress of red, white and blue, did justice to the occasion and that young Captain Swift was so embarrassed, either with the eloquence of the speaker or with his new military honors or with both, that his response was somewhat mixed in its metaphors and he wound up with: "The ladies of Polo; long may they wave!"

The "Ogle Guards" went to camp at Freeport May 11th and on the 14th they were sworn into the State service by John E. Smith. The next day they were uniformed by the generosity of the people of Polo at an expense of about \$1,500, and a few days later they were sworn into the United States service and became known as Co. H. of the 15th Illinois.

We can not follow the boys through all the weary years to 1865. They lost their first man by drowning at Freeport. They performed military duty in every southern state except Texas. They marched and traveled 11,640 miles. At Shiloh the regiment lost in killed or wounded, its Colonel, Major, and 225 men, and at the close of the two days fight the regiment was in charge of Adjutant Charles F. Barber. Company H. went into that fight with 45 men and 33 of them were either killed or wounded under the old flag presented by the ladies of Polo, and here present to-night. Do you wonder the boys who remain prize it? It had served up to this time as regimental colors, but was now sent home for preservation. It has since been in the custody of Captain Swift and Peter R. Cover.

Senator Aplington raised one or more companies of the 7th Cavalry in his district. Co. B was enlisted from Ogle, Carroll and Stephenson counties in August, 1861. Forty of the original company were from this immediate vicinity and before the war closed the number was 90. The regiment was sworn into U. S. service September 5th with



Wm. Pitt Kellogg as Colonel, and Zenas Aplington as captain of Co. B. November 13 he was promoted to major.

The death of Major Aplington on the field, while feeling the enemy's lines, May 8th, 1862, brought home to our people the realities of war when his body was brought home for burial. Senator Bushnell was at Pittsburg Landing when he was shot, and he brought the remains to Polo, telegraphing the day before his arrival to Judge Campbell. The Judge could not face the bereaved family with the sad news, so Rev. W. E. Holyoke was sent to perform this sad office.

The funeral of the founder of Polo brought together not only his old friends in the adjoining towns, but several of his senatorial associates as well.

From this time forward Polo felt the sorrow of war as one after another of her soldier boys fell in battle or died in hospital or southern prisons.

From the organization of the 7th in September, '61, recruiting in Polo went on steadily, but the boys went to various branches of the service, and no considerable number were formed into any one company until August, 1862, when the Ninety-second regiment was raised. In this interval, or later, Polo had representatives not only in the 15th Infantry and the 7th Cavalry, but she had men in the 18th, 34th, 46th, 95th and 142d Infantry and the 4th and 12th Cavalry and at least two men, Hibarger and Betebenner, in the artillery service.

In August, 1862, the 92nd was raised, five companies in Ogle county—two from Polo, D and E, three from Stephenson and two from Carroll county. Of Co.'s D and E, 70 and 90 respectively, were recruited from this vicinity, Polo, Brookville and Pine Creek.

They were mustered into U. S. service at Rockford, September 4, 1862. The history of this regiment is so well known that extended notice is unnecessary.





Of the two Polo companies 39 died in battle or hospitals, 7 languished in rebel prisons until the war closed. The record of the wounded I can not give. At Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, at Nickojack, with Sherman about Atlanta and to the sea they gave abundant evidence of their valor. The 15th and 92nd Infantry and 7th Cavalry have their representatives among the 13,700 buried at Andersonville and in the other cemeteries and prisons of the south. So have Polo soldiers paid our part of the terrible price war levies! It would take too long to name those who went out from us but came not back. Tonight in addition to these there rests in our three cemeteries the ashes of 110 soldiers who did not fall at the front but who most of them fell sooner than their time because of exposure at the front. Ninety-five of this one hundred ten were soldiers of the civil war, one was a revolutionary soldier, ten served in the war of 1812, two in the Mexican war, one in the Spanish-American war and one was a soldier in the regular army. Thus ever does war tax a nation.

But what of the burdens of the women and the children, yes, and of all the people. From the opening of the war to 1865, Polo women were organized for relief of the war sufferers at home and in the field. Their work did not stop with the presentation of the flag to the first company. Much of this time they held weekly meetings to prepare supplies for the hospitals. No known record is preserved of their benefactions to the widows and orphans at home, or the soldiers in the field. The sanitary fair in the wigwam in the winter of 1864 and '65 in a single week raised, it is said, \$1,500 for relief work. Hoping to find records of the work of Polo women and men search was made in the Newberry library. There it was found that the officers of the Polo branch of the United States Sanitary Commission at one time were Mrs. A. G. Webster, Samuel Y. Perce, Samuel S. Scott, Mrs. Robert S. Hitt, and Mrs. Maria B. Holyoke. Coupled in the reports of this mighty



work of our state for the soldiers are references to the generous gifts from the faithful auxiliary at Polo. Polo auxiliary is credited with the gift of two hundred fifty-one packages, but their value or contents are not given. But this is only a partial record. Others were officers of this society or of kindred organizations in Polo. Mrs. E. G. Smith, Mrs. A. M. Hitt and others are known to have been prominent in this relief work.

Women ploughed and planted and harvested grain and picked corn and managed their fatherless families.

There is only partial record of what our township did, or of what our citizens did voluntarily. But nearly every man who did not go to the front contributed to help pay the bounties given to those who enlisted. This voluntary sum was large, probably nearly as large as that paid into the county treasury as war tax, which for Ogle county was more than \$400,000.00. Two years ago there were 343 pensioners of the civil war in Ogle county. Verily this nation for the past fifty years has paid and is still paying a great price for our civil war for the crime of slavery.





## THE DANVILLE AND FORT CLARK ROAD.

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J. O. Cunningham, of Urbana, Ill.

There is perhaps nothing which occurs in the progress of any given country or state from its primitive condition of savagery to that of civilization, than the conditions from time to time of its roads and means of transportation from one part of that country to another. The "trace" of the aborigine, the country "mud" road, the "pike" are stations in progress.

It goes without saying that in the beginning of the change of the condition of Illinois from that of a home only for wild men and no less wild animals, none of those indicia of civilization known now as roads and highways, were in existence. But from this it must not be understood that there were no paths or trails used by men and animals in passing from one grove or feeding range to another, or from one meadow where buffaloes and other animals grazed to the salt springs to which they as well as the Indians had resort for salt; or from one Indian village to another, for such existed and were found by the first white adventurers, everywhere.

Prof. Archer Butler Hulbert, author of *Historic Highways of America*, in volume 1 of that valuable series, has well pointed out the existence and origin of these primary roads: "It was for the great game animals to mark out what became known as the first thoroughfares of America. The plunging buffalo, keen of instinct, and nothing if not utilitarian, broke great roads across the continent on the summits of the watersheds, beside which the first Indian trails were but traces through the forests. Heavy, fleet of foot, capable of covering scores of miles a day, the buffalo tore his roads from one feeding ground to another, and from north to south, on the high grounds;



here his roads were swept clear of debris in summer, and snow in winter. They mounted the heights and descended from them on the longest slopes, and crossed each stream at the bars at the mouths of its lesser tributaries. \* \* \*

The first explorers that entered the interior of the American continent were dependent upon the buffalo and Indian for the ways of getting about. Few of the early white men who came westward journeyed on the rivers, as the journals of Gist and Walker attest, and to the trails of the buffalo and Indian they owed their success in bringing to the seaboard the first accounts of the interior of the continent."

So in Illinois. The earliest comers found paths and traces leading across the country which, in a measure, aided them in finding the shortest cuts from timber grove to timber grove, but such were not of human origin. Before even the Indian came to hunt the wild animals, these animals, in search of water or pasturage, made their traces or paths, always choosing the best and shortest lines of travel. The earliest comers to this as to other new countries found ready made roads, of the primitive sort, which they utilized until through the progress of years, they could do better.

It is the purpose of this paper to put upon the record some recollections of one of these early roads, first made by the wild animals which a century ago roamed at will over our prairies and through our groves, adopted by the wild Indian and in turn utilized by the first white men who attempted here to plant the homes of civilized men. Reference is thus made to the road of those early days which lead from the Indiana line near Danville, through the counties of Vermilion, Champaign, McLean and Tazewell, to Fort Clark, where now stands the City of Peoria, known in local parlance as the "Danville & Fort Clark Road."

Some of the early map makers recognized the existence of this road and traced its course upon their maps in its wanderings from grove to grove and from timber belt to





timber belt, in irregular courses between its eastern and western terminals. So marked, it lead from the Wabash river to the Illinois river, connecting at that date only the towns of Danville, Bloomington and Peoria. In so doing it crossed the middle fork of the Vermilion river near what in early days was known as the "Salt Works," six miles west of Danville; the Salt Fork of the Vermilion at Prather's ford a mile north of where is now the village of St. Joseph; the Sangamon at Newcom's ford and bearing northwest, made Cheeney's Grove, in McLean county, thence to Bloomington and Peoria.

It requires little stretch of the imagination to account for its origin upon the theory above quoted from Professor Hulbert. At what was probably its earliest eastern terminus, were the salt springs of the Vermilion, near Danville, from time immemorial the resort of the herds of buffalo and deer, as well as of the Indian. Thence westward it led by and through the timber belts of the Salt Fork, the Big Grove, the Sangamon timber, Cheeney's Grove. Blooming Grove and the timber belts of the Mackinaw and Illinois rivers. Between these resorts of the Indian and the wild animals lay many open prairies, the finest of hunting and grazing grounds of the Grand Prairie. Naturally the instinctive buffalo, many generations of which fed upon these prairies, to satisfy his cravings for salt, would often resort to the Vermilion salt springs, always following the same path, which, as shown later in the "Danville & Fort Clark Road" of the early white inhabitants, occupied "the summits of the watersheds," in all cases avoiding the low grounds, except at the crossings of streams.

The coming of the Indian, if in fact his coming was preceded by that of the buffalo, having the same necessities and cravings as the animals, made use of this path or trace in aid of his migrations in pursuit of food and salt. Upon it or rather beside it, he readily waylaid and



captured the buffalo and deer traveling thereon and at its eastern termination he gathered his supply of salt as it oozed from the springs.

It will also be remembered that about what is now the flourishing city of Danville, were the habitations for many years of some parts of the wild Indians known as the Kickapoos, with subdivisions of the same people under other and different names. The capital city of these people is said by Judge H. W. Beckwith, in his "Illinois and Indiana Indians," to have been located at a point in McLean county known as Old Town Timber, now West Township, where the largest part of the nation made its permanent abode. The later line of the Danville & Fort Clark Road, connected these two Kickapoo towns by the shortest and most direct route; and to the frequent use of the same by these kindred people in going and coming, on social visits and hunting excursions, as well as upon errands of war, may well be attributed its well worn appearance when first seen by white men. Doubtless, it had many times been followed by this warlike people when making their hostile incursions among the frontier settlements of Kentucky, Virginia and Pennsylvania, and that it had as often witnessed the returns of these war parties from successful expeditions, laden with the spoils of cruel war, the scalps of unfortunate victims and followed by bound prisoners upon their way to lives of captivity or worse to become victims of the fiery stake at Old Town Timber. So the earlier probabilities concerning the uses to which the incipient and later useful highway was put, are anything but soothing.

Traditions of the earlier settlers along this road are uniform as to its location and condition when white men first sought out homes in those counties. They, however, were not the first civilized men who saw and made use of it.

Before the establishment of either of the counties above named as those traversed by the road in question, the





territory west of the Illinois river, though farther north than either of those counties, and farther from the settled portions of the State, became largely settled and by the year 1825 was organized into counties. The reason which may account for this was the allotment of that territory by the government for the use of the soldiers of the war of 1812, and the large emigration thereto about that time. This road, or "trace" as it was before then, was the nearest available route for this large incoming of prospective citizens from the regions of Kentucky and Indiana to the "Military Tract," and was made use of for that purpose. Before the United States survey of the lands now forming the counties of Vermilion and Champaign, the "trace," before them for ages, perhaps, followed only by a single path, had become a road much used by wagons and other vehicles, bearing westward this tide of emigrants. Crossing the Wabash river at Fort Harrison, near Terre Haute, it made the region of Danville where the "trace" westward was encountered and made use of.

By this route it is probable that there came those advance couriers of civilization known in all the western country as "squatters," who are the first to occupy the country with permanent homes. They were in fact the actual occupants of many tracts along the road, as was told by the permanent residents who came a little later by this road and in many cases bought the squatter's rights to cabins and other improvements. Their only rights in the soil were those incident to occupancy, for but rarely did this class legally enter the land from the government. Having sold their homes they moved on by the same road to repeat, in other and farther western regions, the process.

So, for the same reasons, it is a historical fact, known to the writer, that along this Danville and Fort Clark road, in the counties of Vermilion and Champaign, and probably in other counties, were the first permanent settlements of those counties made. It is also a fact that





at a point at the north end of what in early days was known as the "Big Grove," in the latter county, as a result of this early tendency, in 1833, when the county was given its legal existence, was the largest settlement in the county, and it became the most prominent candidate for county seat honors. Other influences, however, decided the contest in favor of a much smaller settlement four miles farther south and at a point where no road existed.

By legislative act in 1831, this buffalo trace was made a public highway, and its course from Pekin to Danville, through Blooming Grove, Cheeney's Grove, Big Grove to its eastern termination, by legal enactment fully recognized. So, the records of the board of county commissioners of Vermilion county, as early as 1828, show a recognition of the road by the name of the "Fort Clark Road," in an order providing for its improvement within that county by apportioning the road work due under the law to it. Other counties may have done the same.

Traditions among the descendants of the early white inhabitants who made their homes along its course, tell of the great streams of immigrants who made use of it, of the camping grounds near the streams and groves and of the fords where, in the absence of bridges, the streams were crossed.

As the county was taken possession of by permanent residents and the courses of travel were changed by the growing up of cities and villages upon other lines, this road was in a large measure abandoned or rather in some cases re-located upon the lines of government surveys of the adjacent lands, so that now little of it remains. It is but a reminiscence. Yet in places the great gullies worn by the passing wheels fully witness the facts of the past, and to the questions of the younger generations who ask why these unfilled furrows in the pastures and groves, the answers of the few remaining pioneers is "The Danville and Fort Clark Road!"





## THE OLD INDIAN TRAIL, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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From the papers of the Late Zimri A. Enos.

Can any of the surviving first settlers of Sangamon county or the descendants of the first settlers, locate the line, or any part of the line of the Old Indian Trail from Peoria through this county to St. Louis: fixing points in the line by the government subdivisions of the lands, or through, or by the farms it passed, with sufficient certainty to enable a fairly accurate plat of the route to be made. This trail according to my understanding was the route which the army under Governor Edwards in 1812 followed in their march from Fort Russell near Edwardsville to Peoria. And which route is designated in one of the early records of Sangamon county as the Old Edwards Trace, and Clear Lake is therein mentioned as a place on the line of the Trace. This trail or trace should, as an interesting matter of history, be definitely established, before all evidence of its location is gone. I have a general idea of the route of the trail or trace from Edwardsville as far north as Elkhart, derived from a personal knowledge of fixed points in it, the topography or character of the country over which it passed and in the manner in which the Indians usually selected their routes, following the high ground or dividing ridges in the prairie, heading streams and avoiding passing through heavy timbers as much as possible, and seldom pursuing a straight line. I know that the path from the house to the stable on a farm seven miles north of Edwardsville (which was settled in 1817) was and is now the line of the Old Trail. And in 1833 I traveled the Old Trail from Honey Point, north about eight miles, to where Zanesville now is; the trail was east of and considerably further



out in the prairie than the wagon road between the same places, and was then very distinct. From Fort Russell north for about eighteen miles to the old watering place at the head of Paddock Creek, a short distance north-east of the town of Bunker Hill, the trail ran in a generally straight course through the prairie along the dividing ridge between the waters and timbers of Paddock's Creek on the east and Indian Creek on the west, thence in a northeast course through the prairie to the points of timber at the head of Dry Creek (designated in old times as Dry Point), thence to Honey Creek (known in old times as Honey Point), and thence to head of timber on Horse Creek (the three creeks running into Macoupin Creek on the west), and thence north to Macoupin point, the little grove of timber at the head of Macoupin Creek—thence north through the prairie and between the timber lines of Brush Creek, Horse Creek and South Fork of the Sangamon river on the east and Sugar Creek on the west, entering Round Prairie and crossing the Sangamon river between the mouths of Sugar Creek and the South Fork—thence by Clear Lake and through the prairie to Buffalo Hart Grove—thence on the divide between the waters of Lake Fork on the east and Wolf Creek on the west to Elkhart Grove—thence to the Rocky Ford of Salt Creek in the S. E. corner of Section 6, T. 19 N. R. 3 W—thence north to an Indian village on the north side of Salt Creek at either Kickapoo or Sugar Creek and thence to Peoria. After the crossing of Salt Creek, the route from there on to Peoria, I have no information or definite idea about.

This route of the trail for over 100 miles from Edwardsville to Salt Creek (with the exception of the Sangamon River and timber) crossed no stream of any size and passed through little timber, followed nearly the watersheds or divides of the streams through the prairie. The Hon. Wm. H. Herndon, in his lifetime, claimed a little variation of the route as above described, asserting that it crossed Sugar Creek from Round Prairie and passed along





the west side of the Sangamon River, through Germany prairie, crossing the river at or near the site of Bogues' old mill in the N. E. corner of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6, T. 16 N, R. 4 W. 3rd P. M., and thence north on the west side of Wolf Creek Timber to Elkhart Grove, in Sec. 7 and 18, T. 18 N. R. 3 W. He stated that his father settled in Germany prairie in 1821 five miles northeast from Springfield, and at that date, an Indian trail was not far from their cabin and he frequently saw the Indians traveling it. Both routes may have been trails that were traveled by the Indians. Since writing the foregoing, I have discovered on the oldest known map of the Illinois Territory (now in the Historical State Library) a surprisingly accurate delineation of that part of the Sangamon River and the Lake Fork northeast of Springfield, and between the two streams, an Indian village marked thereon, in location exactly fitting Buffalo Hart Grove. I would like information from Mr. Cass or any old inhabitant of the Grove if there was any tradition among the first settlers of its being the site of an Indian village, or any relics discovered there that would indicate it, or Indian camping ground, such as an Indian graveyard, the finding of stone axes, spears and arrow heads or Indian utensils of any sort, or spot of blue grass denoting a camping ground. The line of this Old Indian Trail was the wagon route of most of the early settlers of Sangamon county, and is accurately located in the subdivision surveys of townships 9 and 10 north range 6 west 3rd P. M. made by U. S. Deputy Surveyor in 1818 and gives the distances from the section corners at which the section lines north and south and east and west intersected the trail. These connections of the survey lines with the trail were made in conformity with the general instructions issued by the Surveyor General to all deputy surveyors; but these two townships are the only ones on the line of the trail where any attention was paid to this instruction. Mr. Joseph Stafford informs me that when a boy riding in company





with a grown brother along the road on the narrow divide between Horse Creek and Sugar Creek, his brother called his attention to and pointed out the line of the old Indian trail a little to the side of the road. And Mr. Henry Davis says that when he first settled in Pawnee township the trail was distinct that passed through his farm and he thinks he could now locate it very nearly from memory; and doubtless the Messrs. Sanders, Henkles, Greenwalt, Funderburk, Heines, Burtle, Jones, Brunk and Stout, of Pawnee, Cotton Hill and Ball townships; Clarks, Grahams, Cantrill, Turley, Trotters and McVeigh of Round Prairie; and the Yocoms, Hussey, Constants, Riddles, Mallorys, Kings, Knoxes and McGary of Williamsville and Clear Lake townships, have some personal knowledge or family account of the trail and its location or some parts or points of it; many of them must have; and if all this information could be gathered up a fairly accurate map of the trail or trails could be made. Will the persons named or any others who have information on the subject take interest enough in the matter to write out what they know or show the same by pen or pencil plat, and send it to Mr. George N. Black\*, member of the Illinois Historical Society. And further, if any one knows where Chapman's Ford on the Sangamon River and Eads Ford on Sugar Creek are located, two points named in a county road (the first ever located in this county) and running from the south line of the county north to the settlement on Fancy Creek, and if these fords or any part of the road was on the Old Indian Trail. The watering place mentioned in this article was too important a place in the first settlement of the country to be passed by without some further mention. It was the head of the channel of Paddock's Creek and where the combined flood waters of several sloughs or drains had been able to cut through the tough prairie sod and wash out a long, wide and deep hole that was filled with a never

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\*Send such information to the Secretary of the Society.





failing supply of good spring water. It was on the line of the regular traveled road from Springfield to St. Louis, and from it to the first house on the road south was about thirteen miles, and to the first house north about forty miles. And in a dry time for this whole fifty odd miles there was no other chance for water for man or beast. It was always a stopping place to water and frequently to camp.



## THOMSON R. WEBBER.

A PIONEER OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY.

By J. O. Cunningham, of Urbana, Ill.

In the multiplicity of human affairs of this day, the personality of men, let them have been ever so prominent in their day and generation, when they are gone from life, or even from active life, they are soon lost sight of. This admitted fact well justifies the work of many of our friends, who, so kindly place upon the columns of the State Historical Society publications the names and careers of those "Forgotten Statesmen" who a generation or two since, made our laws and constitutions, executed the decrees of the Republic and its courts and kept for our information the records of government.

This fact will also, perhaps, justify the attempt of the writer of this article at recalling from the misty past a name which figured most conspicuously half a century since and before, in the eastern middle section of Illinois.

Thomson Rhodes Webber, one well entitled to the appellation above given to a class of men whom we can ill afford to forget, was born on October 6th, 1807, in Shelby county, Kentucky, and, as the name may indicate, was of German extraction.

In the year 1832, following the lead of quite a number of families from that part of his native state, he made his way, with his newly wedded wife, to that part of Vermilion county, Illinois, which a year later was by legislative enactment made the county of Champaign. Before then his father, William T. Webber, had entered large and valuable tracts of land in the neighborhood of the location of the present city of Urbana, upon which in a very primitive log cabin, the newly wedded couple made their home.





Mr. Webber had followed the calling of school teacher in his native state, and would have gladly renewed his engagements in his new home, but unfortunately, his new home was far from homes which could furnish the necessary youth to be taught. Squatter frontiersmen and Indians were his nearest neighbors and schools were yet to be thought of. The one thousand square miles of territory then soon to become Champaign county, contained less than one inhabitant to each of its square miles.

Occupation, however, for the new comer, was not long delayed, for the same year, the County Commissioners of Vermilion county appointed him a constable for that county, and the creation of the new county of Champaign the following year, with its paucity of available material for county officers, opened a wider field. Mr. Webber was appointed clerk of the County Commissioners, at the first meeting of the board and clerk of the Circuit Court of the county at the first term of the court, which offices he continued to hold, either by like appointments or by the choice of the people, for near a quarter of a century. He was the first postmaster of the new county seat, Urbana, and for more than forty years held and discharged the responsible office of Master in Chancery, by the appointments made by such early judges as Judge Samuel H. Treat and David Davis, followed by like actions of their successors.

Higher and more appreciative honors followed. In 1847, Mr. Webber was chosen from the district consisting of the counties of Champaign, Vermilion, Piatt and Coles, to represent the people in the Constitutional Convention which assembled in 1848 for the purpose of preparing and presenting the draft of a new constitution for the State. This duty was well and creditably performed and the work of that body made the fundamental law of the State for a period of twenty-three years. So, again, in 1861, Mr. Webber was chosen from a constituency consisting of the counties of Champaign, Piatt, De-



Witt and Macon, to represent again his fellow citizens in the Constitutional Convention of 1862. His work was again conscientiously performed, but the people, to whom it was referred, rejected the document as their constitutional law. This was during the war period and political feeling entered effectively into the contest.

Mr. Webber was from the first a loyal and steadfast Democrat, casting his first vote for Andrew Jackson. As such he was a supporter of Zadoc Casey, of Mt. Vernon, who represented the congressional district embracing Champaign county from 1833 to 1842, and likewise supported John Wentworth of Chicago, when Cook and Champaign counties, with the greater part of the northern half of the State, were embraced within the Third Congressional District. As a supporter of John Wentworth, Mr. Webber and other devoted democrats, repeatedly traveled across the unbroken and pathless country to Ottawa and other northern towns, to be in attendance upon congressional conventions called for the nomination of that gentleman as the democratic candidate. This errand was rarely performed within one week.

The long service of Mr. Webber in deliberative assemblies and the courts, with his advanced scholarship, so qualified him as a leader of men that few public meetings of the people of his county or district were held during his active life, that he was not made either the chairman or secretary of the same. He was easily the first citizen of his county for many years.

The exceptionally retentive memory of Mr. Webber as to passing events in the State and county of his residence made him a reliable authority in local history, and to this faculty and his willingness to relate the same to enquirers, is due the preservation in permanent form of many interesting events in the early settlement of his county.

Mr. Webber was connected with no organized church, but was a loyal believer in and supporter of Christianity,





to the precepts of which he adhered in all his dealings with his fellow men. His habits of punctuality and his formal manner of performing all duties of an official or personal character, marked him as what is generally known as a "gentleman of the old school," among his friends and associates.

After a residence in Champaign county of nearly fifty years, Mr. Webber died at his residence near Urbana, on December 14th, 1881, universally honored and regretted. One son, Hon. William B. Webber, who served the State in the 34th general assembly as a member of the House of Representatives, with many grand children, survive him at this time. The latter, W. B. Webber, has for nearly fifty years been a prominent and honored member of the bar of Champaign county.

The subject of this sketch had a state-wide acquaintance among the men of his day, especially with men of the legal profession who from time to time attended the terms of the circuit court of his county. During his service as clerk of that court its business was largely transacted by non-resident lawyers who followed the judges from county to county. Among these was Abraham Lincoln, who for many years rarely failed to attend all its sessions. Between the two there sprang up an appreciative friendship which was deep and lasting. So also with Judge David Davis, who for so many years presided in that court, and always held its clerk and his painstaking services as such in the highest esteem.

It will meet the demands of a comprehensive history of the earlier years of our State history, that the name of Thomson R. Webber be kept in memory.



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# DEPARTMENT OF REPRINTS





## DEPARTMENT OF REPRINTS.

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Reprinted from a little pamphlet entitled  
 "STATISTICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL VIEW OF  
 THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA  
 AND THE SEVERAL STATES AND  
 TERRITORIES."

Compiled by M. R. Bartlett. Printed by Sleight & Van  
 Norden, New York, 1833.

This little pamphlet gives the total population of the United States as 12,855,212. It gives all kinds of statistics for the whole United States and Territories and in spite of many errors is of considerable interest. Of Illinois it says, on page 40:

### "XXIII. ILLINOIS.

"This is the country where the once powerful and warlike Winnebagoes held their hunts and their pawwas; and the remnant which is left, still claim a few thousand acres.

It is said to be more level, but not less fertile than the two last mentioned states; and the savannas, (prairies,) are more extensive.

The French planted the towns of Kaskaskia and Cahokia, in 1756. (1699-1700.)

But were surrendered to the English, with Canada, in 1763.

A Mr. Carver, and Mr. M'Kenzie, visited the country in 1768.

And a Mr. Hutchins, who found the native warriors 5,000 strong, in 1780.



The territory was ceded to the United States at the treaty of Paris, in 1783.

It was regarded as a part of the north-west territory in 1802.

And erected a territorial government in 1809.

Admitted into the Union, the 23rd link of the Federal chain, in 1818.

Mean length 365 miles; mean breadth 162; number of square miles 59,130; number of acres 37,843,200. Of these the United States has 23,575,300. The Indians, 6,424,640. Number of counties 56.

Population in 1810, 12,282; 1820, 147,178; 1830, white males, 82,048; white females 73,013; black males 824; black females 813; slaves, males 347; females, 400; total, 157,445.

Seat of government VANDALIA; population in 1830, 3,000; distance from Washington 868 miles. Election 1st Monday in August—district. Electoral votes 5. Governor, John Reynolds, salary, \$1,000.

#### POPULATION OF THE LARGEST TOWNS, &c. FOR 1830.

Kaskaskia, . . . . .	4,306	Albion, . . . . .	2,137
dist. from Wash-		Brownsville, . . . . .	1,535
ington 676 m.		Edwardsville, . . . . .	1,212
Cahokia, . . . . .	2,515	Number of miners, ..	12,200
Alton, . . . . .	2,222		

This state has some of the best land in the world; and some industrious people to work it. The prairies offer great facilities; and no state in the world ever settled with greater rapidity.

For several years past the population of this state has increased at the rate, per annum of 12,000.

The amount of lead obtained from the mines in this state up to 1830 inclusive, is estimated at 38,000,000 lbs.





## XXIV. MISSOURI.

The state of Missouri is the youngest sister in the "Federal Family," and although "bought with a price," is highly caressed and full of promise.

It is a mere fractional part of the Louisiana territory.

The town of St. Louis was built by the French in 1750.

New Madrid was founded by a company from New England, in 1806.

The Indian title was vacated in 1808.

This region was called the territory of Louisiana after 1811.

It was erected into a territorial government in 1819.

And admitted into the Union, March 5th, 1821.

Mean length 272 miles; mean breadth 222; number of square miles 65,500; number of acres 41,920,000; number of counties 33. Land owned by the United States, 35,263,541.

Population in 1810, 20,845; 1820, 66,586; 1830, white males, 61,405; white females, 53,390; black males, 284; black females 285; slaves, males 12,493; females, 12,652; total, 140,455.

Seat of government JEFFERSON; population in 1830 2,850; distance from Washington 1019 miles. Election 1st Monday in August—district. Electoral votes 4. Governor, ———, salary, \$1,500.

## POPULATION OF THE LARGEST TOWNS, &amp;c. FOR 1830.

St. Louis, .....	5,852	New Madrid, .....	1,312
dist. from Wash-		Herculaneum, .....	1,200
ington, 865 m.		Lands of lead mines, 2,000,-	
Franklin, .....	2,713	000	
St. Charles, .....	2,710	Annual produce, 10,000,000	
Potosi, .....	2,566	lbs.	
		No. of hands employed, 2,850	



This state stretches upon the Mississippi 550 miles, and along the Missouri 380 miles. It appears from a late estimate, that the surface is something more extensive than old Virginia, and the population January 1st, 1833, 185,000.

Its advantages are supposed to surpass those of Illinois.





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## BOOK REVIEWS

NEWS AND A HISTORY OF THE

Edited by

Switzerland, 1848-1849

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# BOOK REVIEWS



## BOOK REVIEWS.

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### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS OF ILLINOIS, 1814-1879.

Edited by Franklin William Scott, University of Illinois.

Reviewed by Solon J. Buck.

Springfield, Illinois State Historical Library, 1910. cvi,  
610 pp. (*Illinois Historical Collections*, VI, *Bibliographical Series*, I.)

The Illinois State Historical Library has performed a two-fold service in bringing out this bibliography of all newspapers and periodicals published in the State prior to 1880; it has supplied the materials for a history of journalism in Illinois; and it has furnished students of western history with a most valuable bibliographical tool. Although nominally a new edition of James and Loveless' newspapers published in Illinois prior to 1860 (*Ill. State Hist. Library, Publ. No. 1*); it is so much more complete and comprehensive than that pamphlet as to be practically a new work. So far as is known, nothing like this has been attempted in any other state, the *Annotated Catalogue of Newspaper Files in the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin* being the nearest approach to it, but it is to be hoped that similar compilations will eventually be made for all the other states.

The bibliography proper is preceded by an introduction of about eighty pages in which Mr. Scott sketches the history of journalism in Illinois. The nature of this sketch is well indicated in the opening paragraph in which its purpose is stated to be "to deal with the beginnings of Illinois journalism and to a less extent to suggest the relation of the newspaper to the manifold successive elements that have entered in the making of the State—popu-





lation, transportation, communication, politics, education, and other materials and methods of economic and social development; and to record some important tendencies and certain isolated facts not now conveniently accessible elsewhere." With an eye for picturesque details and lively incidents, Mr. Scott has given us an entertaining narrative which is a genuine contribution to the history of the State. Especially valuable are his accounts of the part played by the press in the contest during 1822-1824 over the proposed constitutional convention to make Illinois a slave state; and his discussion of the attitude of the political papers during the period of party reorganization in the fifties.

The body of the volume comprises an annotated list of some three thousand newspapers and periodicals arranged in alphabetical order by towns and chronologically in the order of their foundation under each town with the exception that papers which are merely continuations under a different name of some other paper are placed with their predecessors. The annotations give information about dates of publication, editors or proprietors, the character or political affiliation of the paper, and occasionally significant episodes in its career. In a few cases, but not as often as one might wish, a statement is made as to files in the offices of such papers as are still published. This part of the work occupies a little over half of the volume and is followed by "A list of Illinois newspapers and periodicals in Illinois libraries arranged alphabetically by towns, to which is added lists of Illinois newspapers and periodicals in the Library of Congress, the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, the Mercantile Library, St. Louis, the Library of the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass., and others." The "others" are the Boston Public Library, the Lenox Library and the New York State Library at Albany. One is tempted to wish that the library of the State Historical Society of Pennsylvania and some of the more important



libraries in Ohio might have been included. The New York State Library list contains single numbers or partial files of nearly 300 Illinois papers, all of which have probably been destroyed by the recent conflagration in the state capitol at Albany. To this section of the book the bibliography proper serves as an index by means of guide letters following the entries of those papers of which files or copies are listed. The serviceability of the book as a bibliographical tool would have been enhanced by the mention of principal files in connection with the annotations. It is not conducive to the peace of mind of the historical student to look for a file of a paper in the lists of a half dozen different libraries when all or nearly all of them are found to have but one or two issues.

Next in the volume appears a "Table showing the number of newspapers and periodicals begun each year from 1814 to 1879, inclusive," followed by a "Chronological List, 1814-1850," in which the papers are arranged under the dates of their foundation. The usefulness of this section for bibliographical purposes would have been materially increased by the addition of inclusive dates for each paper, with possibly an arrangement by decades as in the Wisconsin Historical Society's *Annotated Catalogue*. The lack of these features makes it a matter of no small amount of labor to find out what were the papers published during any particular period, as, for example, the civil war. More than one-quarter of the volume is occupied by three indices. From the index to newspapers can be readily learned what have been the most popular names with Illinois newspapers. Under *Democrat*, *Republican*, *News*, *Times*, *Journal*, *Gazette*, *Herald*, and *Independent* are listed from one to two hundred papers each. The index to names furnishes a key to the careers of a large number of Illinois journalists and the index to counties makes it possible to locate readily all of the papers published in any one county. It would probably have been better, however, since the volume will be





used extensively by local historians, to have grouped all of the towns in each county together in the bibliography itself, with an index to towns which might possibly have been combined with the index to newspapers. In view of the strictly alphabetical arrangement of the body of the volume, the usefulness of the eleven page alphabetical list of towns in the table of contents is not apparent. The convenience of the indices would also have been enhanced if the items could have been numbered and the book indexed by numbers instead of pages.

That every publication, no matter how fugitive, in the form of a newspaper or periodical, which has seen the light in Illinois during the period covered, has found a place in the volume is not to be expected. Nor is it within the bounds of possibility that the annotations, containing a mass of detail, and based of necessity largely upon such unreliable things as county histories and the memory of editors, can be free from error. It appears to be true, however, that the work is as complete as much skill and unlimited industry on the part of the compiler, together with liberal appropriations on the part of the State Historical Library, could make it in a reasonable length of time. Two pages of additions are inserted following page 361 and one paper—the Carlyle *Daily Democrat*, which is mentioned in the introduction (p. lxx), does not appear under Carlyle in the main bibliography.

One somewhat surprising and also somewhat discouraging fact developed by the volume and mentioned by Mr. Scott in his preface, is that of but a very small proportion of the papers which have been published in the State are anything like complete files known to be in existence. Many of these publications have, without doubt, passed into utter oblivion, but it is also certain that a considerable number of unique files are still in the possession of editors, ex-editors or their descendants or of "oldest inhabitants"—for many people habitually saved their paper in the early day. All such files are subject to the



ravages of mice and fire and the still more destructive house-cleaning and one can respond with a hearty "amen" to the hope expressed by Mr. Scott that the publication of this work may lead to the deposit of some of these files in library buildings where they will be safe from flames and accessible to students.

Possibly the compiler of the volume may have been less interested in the work as a bibliographical tool for historical students than as a collection of materials for a history of journalism in the State—the preface contains a promise of such a history, which it is to be hoped will be forth-coming. However, that may have been, the volume will be so thoroughly indispensable to all who expect to use the newspapers of Illinois as sources for history, that all criticisms seem captious and would not be offered were it not for the possibility that they may serve as suggestions for a future edition or for similar undertakings in other states.

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### LIFE OF JONATHAN BALDWIN TURNER.

BY HIS DAUGHTER, MARY TURNER CARRIEL, THE FIRST WOMAN  
ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

The above is the full title of a most interesting and important book relating to the educational history of Illinois which has just been published by the author.

This is a charming biography of a great man whose gentleness and simplicity of life and character were distinguishing traits. No attempt is made to deal with politics or policies, but Mrs. Carriel has attempted to show (and she has succeeded) the agency of Professor Turner in the beginnings of the Land Grant Industrial University Movement to which he devoted so many years of wise, patient and fruitful labor. This book will show from a closer personal standpoint what President E. J. James has proven in his thesis published as a study of





the University of Illinois, entitled, "The Origin of the Land Grant Act of 1862 and Some Account of its Author, Jonathan Baldwin Turner," and of which mention was made in the April, 1911, Journal. Letters to Professor Turner from public men of the period, among whom may be mentioned, Governor Richard Yates, Owen Lovejoy and others, are freely used to show how his work was regarded by them.

A notable one is a letter from Senator Justin S. Morrill to Professor Turner. A more extensive notice of the book will be published later. The book presents a handsome appearance. It is printed on good paper in excellent style. It has 298 pages. It is on the whole a just, graceful and loving tribute from an affectionate daughter to an honored father.

In connection with the above notice of Mrs. Carriel's biography of Prof. Jonathan B. Turner we publish a letter from Simeon Francis, the editor of the State Journal, to Professor Turner. This letter written in 1851, was on the subject of the State school fund which subject was so closely connected with the general educational plans of Professor Turner and his associates, among whom Mr. Francis was prominent.

The letter is from the papers of Professor Turner.

"Springfield, Ill., Dec. 8, 1851.

"DEAR SIR—I have yours' of the 4th. I would suggest that the President of the Granville Convention open a correspondence with the Governor on the subject of introducing the projected University measure at the Extra Session. This can be done in such a manner as to prevent any other disposition of the University fund, than for the object we desire. If necessary, let the President referred to be backed by petitions. I am afraid that if the publishers here take grounds for the measure, those who desire to divide the fund will take the alarm, and having greater private interests at stake than we have, will work hard, and defeat us. Please to think of this hint.



"So soon as I can have a fair opportunity, I will say in the best manner I can, that you have no personal views in promoting the project of an agricultural University, &c.

"I see the papers are, so far as they have expressed an opinion, in favor of our measure. I know that the people will be, if they can be made to understand it.

"We shall be glad to hear from you when you can make it convenient.

Yours truly,  
S. FRANCIS."





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# EDITORIAL



## EDITORIAL.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The year 1911 is the fiftieth anniversary of the breaking out of the Civil War and historical societies and Grand Army posts all over the country are holding special memorial services or in some way observing the anniversary. In Chicago a great meeting was held in the Auditorium under the auspices of the Chicago Daily News, on April 12; in Springfield the Illinois State Historical Society held a special meeting on April 14, an account of which is given in another place in this number of the Journal. The Chicago Daily News began publishing the history of the Civil War on April 1, 1911, giving an account of each day's happenings in the great struggles of fifty years ago. These papers will form a stupendous and circumstantial history of the war.

At Galena, Ill., on April 27th was observed the eighty-ninth anniversary of the birth of Gen. U. S. Grant.

An article in the Chicago Daily News of June 3, 1911, reminds us that on June 5, 1861, Stephen A. Douglas died, fifty years ago, at a time when his services to President Lincoln and the country would have been of inestimable value.

On July fourth at Springfield was celebrated by the Grand Army of the Republic and the citizens generally the fiftieth anniversary of General Grant's march from Camp Yates in command of the 21st regiment of Illinois volunteer infantry.

These observances remind us of the great events which were transpiring a half century ago. The time to record and publish this history is now when there are still some persons living who can furnish us information at first hand. It is the duty of historical societies to do this work.





## GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

The McLean County Historical Society has presented to the Illinois State Historical Library some numbers of early Bloomington, Illinois, newspapers. These are not complete files, but are scattering numbers of several papers. They consist of the:

Illinois Statesman, 1858-1863; 36 numbers during this period.

The Western Whig, March 17, 1849.

The Weekly Pantagraph, one number in each year, 1854, 1857, 1859, 1860.

McLean County Journal, July 16, 1868.

The Bloomington Democrat, Feb. 9, 1871.

The Appeal, April 8, 1876.

Bloomington Pantagraph, Nov. 23, 1877.

## PICTURE OF THE LINCOLN HOME.

Mr. Richard E. Schmidt of Chicago has presented to the Illinois State Historical Library an original photograph of the Lincoln Home at Springfield, taken it is supposed on August 8, 1860, when a large delegation was calling upon Mr. Lincoln. The photograph is about 10 by 14 inches and is framed. It is a valuable addition to the Lincoln collection of the Library and has been hung in the Library room.

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LAWS RELATING TO HISTORICAL MATTERS  
AND INTERESTS PASSED BY THE FORTY-  
SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
ILLINOIS.

The report of the Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society published in another place in this number of the Journal refers to the more important bills relating to historical subjects which were when the report was presented to the Historical Society, at its annual meeting,



still pending before the Legislature, few if any of them having passed both Houses at that date, May 18, 1911, although the session came to a close on the next day.

The closing hours of the General Assembly decided the fate of many matters of importance to the historical workers of the State. The most considerable appropriation of this nature was the appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the purchase of Starved Rock and adjacent properties.

The House of Representatives passed the bill allowing an appropriation of \$225,000, but the Senate refused to concur and the House concurred in the Senate amendment, which fixed the amount at \$150,000 as above stated. This insures the preservation of one of the most beautiful and truly historic places in the State, which will in time be made into a magnificent State park.

#### MADISON COUNTY CENTENNIAL.

An appropriation of \$5,000 was made to a commission for the purpose of erecting a monument to Governor Ninian Edwards and as a memorial of the site of old Fort Russell near Edwardsville, Illinois. This old fort was the military headquarters of the territory of Illinois during the frontier wars and the war of 1812.

Next year is also the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of Madison county and also the centennial anniversary of the first territorial legislature of Illinois.

Madison county proposes to celebrate these important historical events and at the same time the monument just mentioned will be dedicated. The president and secretary of the Historical Society are members of the commission for the building of the monument, and thus the Society is intimately connected with the celebration.

#### SITE OF FORT CHARTRES.

A bill was passed making an appropriation for the purchase of the site of old Fort Chartres in Monroe





county. This is one of the most important historic sites in the State.

Owing to an error in the form of the bill making this appropriation and constituting the board of management should the property become a State park, the Governor was obliged to veto the bill. As this, however, was the reason for the Governor's inability to approve the bill it may be confidently expected that this historic site will be acquired by the State through the action of the next General Assembly.

#### THE LINCOLN WAY.

One of the most popular measures was the joint resolution directing the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library to endeavor to fix the route taken by the family of Abraham Lincoln from the Indiana home to the first Illinois home and on through the New Salem home to the tomb at Springfield.

The state of Kentucky is mapping out the route taken by the Lincoln family from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln to the Indiana home. It is hoped that the state of Indiana will mark the route through that state and so through the combined labors of these three sovereign states a great highway can be accurately mapped out and marked from the birthplace to the tomb of the Great Emancipator and it is hoped that it may be called the "Lincoln Way," as suggested by Governor Charles S. Deneen in his message to the last session of the Illinois Legislature.

#### COMMISSION TO PLAN FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING.

The legislation of greatest interest to the Historical Society, perhaps, is the bill carrying an appropriation of \$5000, and creating a commission to formulate plans, consider sites, and other matters looking toward the erection of a building for the State Department of Education, the Illinois State Historical Library, the Illinois



State Historical Society, the Natural History Museum and perhaps other interests of a like nature.

The commission is to consist of the Governor, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Auditor of Public Accounts, President of the Board of Trustees of the State Historical Library and the President of the Illinois State Historical Society. It is expected that the commission will visit other such state buildings, give hearings to persons interested and do so much of the preliminary work that they can report to the next General Assembly perfected plans for the new building and make strong recommendations as to the best site for it. Too much praise can not be given to Mr. William A. Meese, chairman of the legislative committee of the Historical Society, for his work in securing this appropriation and the creation of the commission.

The commission plan was Mr. Meese's idea and he labored for it long and earnestly.

These are the principal matters of interest to the Historical Society which received attention by the last legislature, most of which have been explained at some length in the report of the Secretary of the Society, published in this number of the Journal.

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### JERSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The great success of the Jersey County Historical Society in its celebration last year of the seventy-first anniversary of the organization of the county has encouraged the society to celebrate this year the seventy-second anniversary. Attractive invitations have been sent out for the occasion, a copy of which is inserted:

Jerseyville, Ill., July 11, 1911.

On August fifth of the present year

Your Jerseyville friends invite you here,

To all the familiar faces greet

As you walk once more down the wide main street.





For the "Old Home Day" calls in all the flock,  
And when it is twelve by the Baptist clock,  
You must bring your lunch to the grassy sward  
'Neath the tall elm trees in the Court House yard.

Various entertainments for the day are planned,  
By those who would like to shake your hand,  
So knowing this, we are sure you will  
Not fail to come back to Jerseyville.

You are cordially invited to attend the 72nd Anniversary Celebration of the organization of Jersey county, August 5th, 1911.

It is desired to make prominent the social and home coming feature on this occasion, and a cordial welcome awaits all who can be present.

The program, as planned, includes a balloon ascension at 10:30 a. m., followed by a band concert. The White Hussar Band of Alton, that gave us such universal satisfaction on August 5th, last year, has been secured for this year.

From 12 to 1:30 the Court House yard will be at the disposal of those present, for group and family picnic dinners.

The afternoon exercises, beginning at 1:30, will include music, and the principal address of the day by Hon. John M. Woodson, of St. Louis, formerly of Greene County, Ill., after which will be drills by Woodmen, Forester Teams, free auto rides for the 39ers and other of the older persons, band concert, etc., etc.

Kindly advise us at your earliest convenience whether or not you can come, and oblige.

Many of the replies to our invitations sent out last year contained items of historic interest, which were much appreciated, and all replies then received are care-



fully preserved in an album for future reference. All replies received this year will be thus preserved.

JOHN W. VINSON,  
FANNY H. ENGLISH,  
CORNELIA J. SHEPARD,  
Invitation Committee.

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### THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF SAINT CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

At a meeting held in Belleville, Ill., on September 12, 1905, "The Historical Association of St. Clair County, Illinois," was started. Only six members were present. The organization has grown since then and while in the meantime two members have been lost through death and two others have removed from the State, at present twenty-eight members are on the active list. The initial official family chosen (pro tem.) on Sept. 12, 1905, was:

President—Hon. J. Nick Perrin.

Vice President—Dr. E. A. Woelk.

Secretary—Prof. A. M. Wolleson.

Treasurer—Prof. W. A. Hough.

On December 8, 1905, a constitution was adopted and the foregoing were elected as the officers for the ensuing year. They have been re-elected annually without change until this year, when through the suggestion of Secretary Wolleson, Prof. E. W. Plegge was selected in his stead.

At the meeting of December 8, 1905, a committee was appointed "to appear before the county board and encourage its co-operation in the matter of the preservation and retention of the county's historic official records." This committee reported at a meeting on January 12, 1906, and the county board appointed a committee to look after the records. Out of this grew the establishment of our county repository in which the very oldest of our records have been placed for safe keeping and





wherein have also been placed such historic contributions, from time to time, as the liberal inclinations of donors and lenders have seen fit to add to the stock of this, the richest of all historical county storehouses west of the Alleghany Mountains. These records and documents and curios date from 1737 through the French, English, Virginian and United States Territorial occupation of the Northwest. While these records in this collection are in the legal custody of the various county officers to whose respective offices they belong, yet, for the purpose of classification and systematic arrangement, Probate Judge Frank Perrin has cheerfully and gratuitously given his services as Curator since the establishment of this Repository. At a meeting of this association on January 21, 1910, held in the Circuit Court room in Belleville, the county seat of St. Clair county, to which the public was invited and which meeting was largely attended, Judge Perrin delivered an address on "The Early Records of the County."

Besides the foregoing accomplishments, to which the association points with much satisfaction, a number of other things have been done. The association during nearly five years of existence has had ten meetings or an average of two annually. A visit was paid on January 23, 1906, by the membership to the city of East St. Louis to attend a lecture by Gov. Chas. P. Johnson of Missouri (a native of Illinois), on early men of Illinois. Thereby much encouragement was given to the Teachers' Association of East St. Louis to take an interest in Illinois history. On December 3, 1907, a celebration was held in commemoration of the admission of the State. And possibly this might have been followed with another in 1908, but as the Lincoln Celebration of 1909 was so close to this date, all the efforts of the Association were concentrated on the Lincoln event. And it was a great success. All of the various other organizations joined with the Historical Association. The President of the His-



torical Association was selected as the President of the Lincoln celebration. A large opera house was crowded to its capacity for the occasion, on account of the immense outpouring of the people, but as many were necessarily turned away as were admitted. The event would have been a credit to any metropolis in the nation.

At the meeting of January 21, 1910, the following were elected and were the officers for 1910:

President—Hon. J. Nick Perrin.

Vice President—Dr. E. A. Woelk.

Secretary—Prof. E. W. Plegge.

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RUSHVILLE, ILLINOIS, CELEBRATED HER  
EIGHTIETH CIVIC ANNIVERSARY ON  
MAY 10, 1911.

Eighty years ago Rushville voted to incorporate as a town under an act of the General Assembly, which was approved Feb. 12th, 1831, and it is an anniversary date that should not pass unnoticed.

Five years previous to this Rushville had been located as the county seat of Schuyler county by three commissioners appointed by an act of the General Assembly. These commissioners were Levin Green, Benj. Chadsey and Thos. Blair, and they made their report to the county commissioners March 6, 1826.

Previous to this a county seat had been established a mile west of the present village of Pleasantview and named Beardstown, but pioneer residents were not satisfied either with the name or the location, and they sought relief of the Illinois Legislature, which appointed a new commission.

And so it happens that while Rushville can date its history back to Feb. 20, 1826, the day on which the commissioners signed their report, its civic history begins





on May 10, 1831, when the enterprising residents voted to incorporate as a town and establish local self government.

VOTE TO INCORPORATE UNANIMOUS.

The vote to incorporate was unanimous, and in the poll of the first voters we find many names familiar to the present generation, for children and grand children of these early pioneers still continue to make Rushville their home. The twenty voters who were unanimous in favor of incorporation were:

John Scripps	Wm. Putman
Hart Fellows	Proctor P. Newcomb
Wm. C. Ralls	Thos. W. Scott
I. J. C. Smith	E. Grist
Richard Redfield	Joel DeCamp
Andrew Ross	John M. Jones
Wm. Layton	James A. Chadsey
A. E. Quinby	Luke Seeley
Samuel Brazzleton	John Mitcheltree
Samuel Beatie	B. V. Teel

RUSHVILLE IN 1831.

Rushville had been making some pretensions as a village previous to the date of incorporation, for as early as 1828 Hart Fellows had been appointed postmaster, and he had erected the first store building on the public square, the site now occupied by H. M. Dace's building. Benj. Chadsey, Thos. W. Scott and Rev. John Scripps were among the early merchants of Rushville, and in 1831 Hodge & Hunter established a carding mill, the first to be established in the State north of the Illinois river.

In 1834 Rushville was credited with a population of 750 in "Peck's Gazetteer of Illinois," and the following facts given of the town's industries: "Rushville has six stores, two groceries, two taverns, four cabinet makers, four brick masons and plasterers, three carpenters, two



blacksmiths, four tanneries, one carding factory, one steam saw and grist mill, four lawyers and two physicians."

In the revised ordinances of the city of Rushville we note that Rushville was again incorporated March 2, 1839, and March 24, 1869, and the first election held under city organization was May 10, 1898.

Hon. L. D. Erwin is Rushville's oldest city official as well as her oldest resident, as he was president of the town board during the year 1859.

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#### QUINCY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DEDICATES SECOND SERIES OF PANELS CONTAINING NAMES OF PIONEERS.

Sunday, May 14, 1911, will be recorded in the annals of the Historical Society of Quincy, Adams county, Illinois, as the date on which the second series of Memorial Panels on the walls of the Quincy Historical building were dedicated, with an appropriate and deeply impressive program, which began at 3:30 and occupied about an hour. The attendance was such that every seat was occupied and intense interest was apparent.

The Rev. William Stewart delivered the invocation, after which the president, C. F. Perry, made the opening remarks. Mrs. Edward J. Parker, chairman of the Memorial committee, presented an interesting report from that committee. Miss Louise Maertz gave an impressive description of the circumstances under which the late Dr. David Nelson composed the hymn, "The Shining Shore," which was then feelingly sung by Mrs. Reeves. Then Mrs. Alfred S. Ellis, a granddaughter of the late Samuel Hopkins Emery, the founder of the society, delivered the address, which was of rare historic merit. Mrs. Reeves sang the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," the audience joining in the chorus. Mrs. Whipple played the piano accompaniments to the solos.





After the doxology, the audience remained seated, excepting those connected with the names to be unveiled, who passed first into the Memorial room. At a signal, four little girls, two of them granddaughters of the late Rev. S. H. Emery and the other two granddaughters of the late Col. Chauncey H. Castle, unveiled the names inlaid in gold letters on Vermont white marble on the second series of Panels, the dates showing when the citizens arrived here.

The Quincy Historical Society is to be congratulated, not only on its success in this important work, and its beautiful home, but on the great and helpful interest of the citizens of Quincy in the work of the Society.

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#### REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS BURIED IN KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Kane County received at least three veterans of the Continental army and two of them lived a number of years in Campton Township and are buried there.

One of them was Abner Powers who came west with a son and lived near the present village of Lily Lake. He lived eight or ten years in his new home, being almost ninety-five at the time of his death, and retained his mental faculties so well that his stories of the Revolution were impressed indelibly upon the minds of those who heard him.

One grand-daughter, Mrs. Alonzo Caldwell, remembers them well and can speak of him most entertainingly.

Certain Illinois statutes confer upon boards of supervisors of the counties the authority to appropriate money for erecting suitable monuments in honor of the soldier dead. In many cases such memorials have been placed in commanding situations at different county seats.

Some one, in 1901, suggested the appropriateness of a suitable marking of the grave of Mr. Powers. A committee appointed to take charge secured two-hundred



dollars from the supervisors, the Elgin chapter of the D. A. R. gave twenty-five dollars and four hundred and seventy-five more were raised in various ways.

An Elgin firm dealing in granite and marble were descendants of men who were neighbors of the old settlers here, and they generously donated, in work and material, so that the seven hundred dollars placed an imposing monument to mark this grave.

A well proportioned base, die and shaft rise to the height of thirty feet. The inscription reads:

ABNER POWERS

1760—1852

Bennington, Saratoga, Valley  
Forge, Yorktown.

July 4th, 1902, about fifty years after the death of this man, an immense crowd gathered at the small country grave yard to witness the dedication of this monument.

A little girl, Gladys Lillibridge, a descendant of the fifth generation, pulled the cord that loosened the great flag with which the shaft was veiled and the monument stood forth in majestic, enduring beauty.

The other soldiers known to be buried in Kane county are William Bennett and Frederick Vaughn.

It has been suggested that the remains of these last two soldiers be removed to the cemetery where Mr. Powers is buried and that their names be also inscribed upon the monument. The United States government will furnish simple markers for the graves of soldiers of the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812 if such graves can be properly identified and the services of the soldiers proven.





REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS BURIED IN SANGAMON COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.

The Springfield Chapters of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution will some time in October, probably the 19th, with appropriate ceremonies, place a bronze tablet in the corridor of the county court house bearing the names of sixteen soldiers of the Revolutionary war who are buried in Sangamon county. It is expected that the State regents of both organizations, the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, will be present and take part in the proceedings. Descendants of these soldiers have been found and have been invited to attend the services. These names and the military records of the soldiers, the residences of their descendants and much other valuable historical information have been secured by the untiring labors of Mrs. E. S. Walker, of the Springfield Chapter D. A. R.

We hope to publish an account of the ceremonies in a future number of the Journal.

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A CORRECTION—RECORDS OF SALT CREEK  
CHURCH.

In the April number of the Journal of the Historical Society was published the records of the Salt Creek Church, edited by Mr. Milo Custer, of Bloomington. To many of the entries of this record the name of Peter Cartwright appears signed as Presiding Elder. There were also several entries signed by Simon Peter, P. E. (presiding elder). Mr. Custer was under the impression that some one, perhaps Peter Cartwright himself, had facetiously signed the name Simon Peter, meaning Peter Cartwright, and in a note to the record in the Journal Mr. Custer expresses that belief or advances that supposition.



On seeing that statement in the Journal Mr. Thornton G. Capps of Greenfield, one of the members of the Society, wrote to Mr. Custer and to the editor of the Journal saying that there was a well known Methodist preacher in Central Illinois in early days named Simon Peter. Mr. Capps was acquainted with the family of Mr. Peter. One of the sons of Mr. Peter was killed in the Civil war and Mr. Capps assisted in carrying his body from the field. Descendants of Simon Peter are still living in central Illinois and it is hoped that more information in regard to his life and labors may be published in a later number of the Journal of the Historical Society.

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#### DEATH OF MRS. J. O. C. WILSON.

Mrs. Wilson born Jan. 28, 1810 and died July 14, 1911, was over 101 years old and had resided in Macomb since the fall of 1833. She had lived in the same house since 1858.

Mrs. John O'Connor Wilson, whose maiden name was Adeline L. Purdy, was the daughter of Henry and Anna Purdy, being the eleventh child of the family of twenty-three children, all of whom with the parents preceded her in death long ago. Her ancestors were Irish, her grandfather having emigrated to the United States at an early day. The family settled around Lebanon, Kentucky.

Adeline Purdy was married to John O'Connor Wilson on May 28, 1827. Ten children were born to them, only two of whom survive. They are Dr. R. H. Wilson, of Lebanon Junction, Kentucky, and Miss Cornelia Wilson of Macomb. Four of the ten children died in infancy, Charles at the age of one year, the others were Samuel P. Wilson, Elizabeth Clark, and Cincinatus Wilson.

In the year 1833 Mr. and Mrs. Wilson left the "blue grass" state for Illinois. It was in October and the journey to this section was made in a two-horse buggy. The weather was ideal and the journey was made without mishap.





They first settled on a farm four and one-half miles southwest of Macomb, on which they resided for eighteen months, coming then to Macomb to live and spend the rest of their days. Macomb when they first moved here was but a mere hamlet, and the greater part of McDonough county was a wilderness of brush and prairies unsettled. Wild game of all kinds abounded in those days and for many years afterwards until the great rush of civilization crowded the game from the face of the earth, and now it is rare for a nimrod to bag more than a rabbit or squirrel and no more the gobble of wild turkey is heard.

They first began housekeeping in Macomb in a house that stood where the fine new Christian church now stands. Their residence on the farm was a log cabin; chinked with mud and built in the style of a century ago.

They resided on East Jackson street for some time, moving thence to South Lafayette street and in 1858 Mr. Wilson erected the house in which the pioneer woman passed away. The house is in a good condition and at the time it was built it was conceded to be the finest for miles around.

John O. C. Wilson, husband of the subject of this sketch, was a prominent figure in the life of Macomb, during the early days of settlement. He was a leader in political affairs and was honored by being chosen the first mayor the city ever had. In his early life he was a Whig. Later he espoused the cause of the Democratic party. Fraternally he was a prominent member of the A. F. & A. M.

He died in Macomb March 18, 1880.

#### FINE RELIGIOUS CHARACTER.

Mrs. Wilson was dearly beloved by everyone. She was a fine religious character. She had been affiliated with a church since she was but eighteen years of age, first becoming united with the Presbyterian church in Marion county, Kentucky and shortly after moving here she became a member of the Presbyterian church of Macomb, being one of the oldest members of the local church.



## GREAT, GREAT, GRAND CHILDREN.

Besides her two children Mrs. Wilson's demise is mourned by eight grand children, seventeen great grandchildren and two great, great, grandchildren.

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 GENEALOGICAL BOOKS.

Mr. Milo Custer, of Bloomington, Ill., that indefatigable worker on genealogical and historical subjects, will soon publish a history of the Hinshaw and Henshaw families.

Mr. Custer has for several years past compiled genealogical notes of central Illinois families. These have not been printed, but libraries and interested persons have been able to procure type-written copies.





## Publications of the Illinois State Historical Library and Society.

---

No. 1. \*A Bibliography of Newspapers Published in Illinois prior to 1860. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago; assisted by Milo J. Loveless, graduate student in the University of Chicago. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 2. \*Information Relating to the Territorial Laws of Illinois, passed from 1809 to 1812. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D. 15 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 3. \*The Territorial Records of Illinois. Edited by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago. 170 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 4. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1900. Edited by E. B. Greene, Ph. D., secretary of the society. 55 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 5. \*Alphabetic Catalog of the Books, Manuscripts, Pictures and Curios of the Illinois State Historical Library. Authors, Titles and Subjects. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Library, by the librarian, Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. 363 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 6. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1901. 122 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 7. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1902. 246 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1902.

No. 8. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1903. 376 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1904.

No. 9. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1904. 701 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1904.

No. 10. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1905. 500 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

No. 11. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1906. 437 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

No. 12. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1907. 436 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1908.

No. 13. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1908. 383 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1909.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 1. Edited by H. W. Beckwith, President Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library. 642 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1903.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 2. Virginia series, Vol. 1. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord. CLVI and 663 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1907.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 3. Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858. Lincoln Series, Vol. 1. Edited by Edwin Erle Sparks, Ph. D. 627 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1908.

\*Out of print.



\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 4. Executive Series, Vol. 1. The Governor's Letter-Books, 1818-1834. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Clarence Walworth Alvord. XXXII and 317 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 5. Virginia Series, Vol. II. Kaskaskia Records, 1778-1790. Edited by Clarence Walworth Alvord. L and 681 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. VI. Bibliographical Series, Vol. I. Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879. Revised and enlarged edition. Edited by Franklin William Scott. CIV and 610 pages, 8vo., Springfield, 1910.

Illinois Historical Collections. Vol VII. Executive Series, Vol. II. Governors' Letter-Books, 1840-1853. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Charles Manfred Thompson. CXVIII and 469 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1911.

\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. I. No. 1, Sept., 1905. Illinois in the Eighteenth Century. By Clarence Walworth Alvord, University of Illinois. 38 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1. No. 2, June 1, 1906. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, 1809-1811. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord, University of Illinois. 34 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

\*Circular Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1, No. 1, Nov., 1905. An outline for the study of Illinois State history. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, by Jessie Palmer Weber, Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library and Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society, assisted by Georgia L. Osborne, assistant Librarian. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Vol. I, Nos. 1-4, April, 1908-January, 1909.

Vol. II, Nos. 1-4, April, 1909 to January, 1910.

Vol. III, Nos. 1-4, April, 1910 to January, 1911.

Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2, April and July, 1911.

\*Journals of the Illinois State Historical Society out of print.

Vol. I, Nos. 1-4, April, 1908, to January, 1909.

Vol. II, Nos. 3 and 4, October, 1908, and January, 1909.

Vol. III, Nos. 1, 2, and 3. April-October, 1910.

Vol. IV, No. 1, April, 1911.

\*Out of print.





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OF THE

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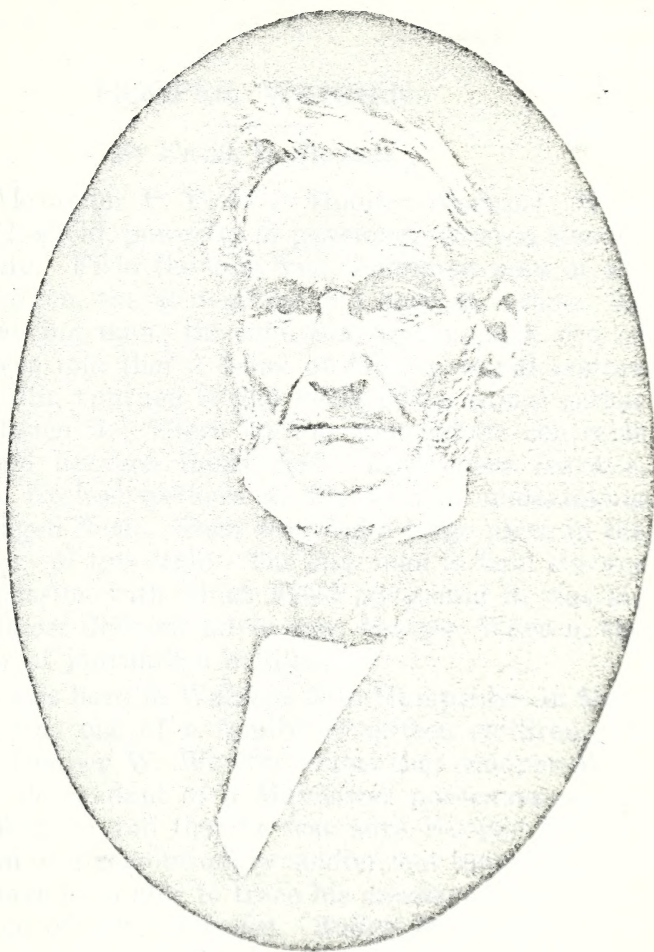
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HOOPER WARREN.

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## HOOPER WARREN.

By Frank E. Stevens.

From Alexander P. Field to Hooper Warren! What a contrast! Field, powerful in physique; Warren slender and delicate. Field the convivial, indulgent man of the world; Warren, the abstemious and once at Galena, the almost starving man; the man too, who upon a bed of sickness was told that a drink of brandy would restore him to health, spurned it and declared he would rather die than touch it. There let the tremendous contrasts which stood between them, rest. Both were fearless. Both were tireless workers in any field or undertaking which engaged them. Each occupied a large place in the early history of this state. The only man to fight slavery with the passion with which Field advocated it, was his modest, almost diffident adversary, Hooper Warren, the real father of journalism in Illinois.

Warren was born in Walpole, New Hampshire, in May, 1790, and was one of a family of sixteen children. A grandson, Hooper W. Warren writes that Hooper Warren was a descendant of a Mayflower passenger of the name of Warren and that he was sure Hooper Warren was the son of a revolutionary soldier, but that is as definite as I have been able to trace his ancestry after a correspondence of several years. Judge D. J. Carnes of Sycamore, a grand-nephew has furnished me with more information about that ancestry than I have been able to secure from any other source.

At an early age, Warren's father and his uncle Seth with their families removed to Woodstock, Vermont, where Hooper Warren learned the printer's trade on the Herald—the Rutland Herald as some have called it—the



same paper that Horace Greeley learned his trade on and Warren himself is authority for the statement that Greeley and he learned their trade together on the same paper.

The minister who preached his funeral sermon declared that Warren while at Woodstock, made the acquaintance of two ministers of the Christian church and printed the first hymn book of that denomination.

In the year 1810, most of Warren's brother's and sisters moved over into the Black River country in New York State. The spirit of migration seemed to permeate the whole country at that time; it caught Warren himself, but he preferred the west as his ultimate destiny.

In 1814, he moved over into Delaware where he worked for about three years. After that and during the year 1817, he pushed on down to Frankfort, Ky., where he worked on a Frankfort paper until the year 1818<sup>1</sup>. There the slavery sentiment was too strong for Warren and in 1818 he moved over to St. Louis where he went into the office of the Missouri Gazette.

Being a rabid anti-slavery man, he desired to enter the field of journalism in the proposed new state of Illinois so that he might fight any attempts that might be made to foist slavery onto the Illinois people. Something however must have altered his plans temporarily because we find him during the same year, as a lumberman's agent leaving St. Louis to go down the river to Cairo, there to establish a business. All that existed at that time to give the place the dignity of a name, was a stranded flat boat in which a very poor family was living. With this family he boarded until after finding it impossible to earn the prime necessities of life at any calling in Cairo, he turned northward again and under the tutelage of Governor Edwards, he established the Spectator on March 23, 1819, at Edwardsville.

Under date of a letter written February 19, 1860, Mr. Warren briefly states the preliminaries which antedated

<sup>1</sup> In Frankfort, Warren worked with Amos Kendall, subsequently Postmaster General.





his removal to Edwardsville: "I will here mention my first knowledge of Mr. Churchill. Having spent the fall and winter of 1818-19 at Cairo and other places near the mouth of the Ohio, I went to St. Louis in March of the latter year to have my prospectus printed for a paper in Edwardsville. On entering the office of Mr. Charless, the old man introduced me to a man at the case by the name of Churchill. Afterward, taking me to the counting room, he told me if I wanted assistance, I could not do better than to employ Mr. C. who had purchased land near Edwardsville, and was preparing to make a farm; that he was not only a good printer, but a first rate editor. He could hardly find words to express his admiration of the ability of Mr. Churchill in the latter capacity. At last he said "he was equal to Duane" which was as much in significance as it would be at the present day to say, "he is equal to Greeley."

I at once secured the services of Mr. Churchill, who continued with me a year and then went to the farm \* \*."

At that time the only papers published in Illinois were the Illinois Intelligencer founded by Mathew Duncan at Kaskaskia, the first issue of which under the name of the Illinois Herald, appeared September 6, 1814. The other had been founded as the Shawnee Chief, September 5, 1818, soon after, when Singleton H. Kimmel was taken as partner, its name was changed to the Illinois Emigrant.

In the early days of Illinois journalism, the editors were supposed to be mouthpieces of certain politicians. In the case of this third Illinois newspaper, the Spectator, Governor Ninian Edwards bought the equipment and constituted Warren its editor. The fact was so well known that on July 29, 1820, John McLean in the Illinois Gazette called Ninian Edwards, "the actual editor of the Edwardsville Spectator." Yet Warren would sacrifice no opinion to any mortal, and he was devotedly attached to Edwards at that. He was the most unrelenting foe to slavery extension that ever lived in Illinois. Edwards



always had been a pro-slavery man while living in Kentucky and favored the institution in 1819. Yet he opposed its introduction in Illinois. Thus it may be seen that he and Warren might get along together on that important question, without any friction. This explanation is made to show the untruthfulness of McLean's other statement that "the yoke of obligation was burdensome."

This Edwardsville Spectator was a five column folio. About one-half its space was occupied by home and foreign advertisements, many of them very quaint. For instance: one of them, a drug store ad, states that a line of "elegant medicines" are carried; among them being, "castor oil which is a real pleasure to take."

In the absence of a campaign, the papers were barren and dry, much of their space being devoted to essays of no interest to any person but the writer. But later Judge Joseph Gillespie has told us, that with respect to the Spectator," as news became the dominant idea of the newspapers, the heavy leaders were dropped, and paragraphing became popular."

During its lifetime, the Spectator appeared to enjoy prosperity. A coterie of the strongest men in Illinois contributed to its columns and very soon it had become the strongest paper west of the Allegheny mountains. It became so formidable an engine against slavery that to offset its influence, State Senator Theophilus W. Smith, a violent pro-slavery man, with others, established in Edwardsville the Illinois Republican, in April, 1823. The ferocious battle for and against Field's Convention resolution was at its height. Smith directed his assaults directly at Warren; but the latter came back at Smith with such vigor and at the same time with such persuasive power that Smith lost his patience and later he lost his battle. Smith was a man of powerful physique, over six feet tall, broad shouldered, pugnacious; an all around bully in appearance and in fact. Warren, taciturn, gentle, kind, courteous, slender—almost delicate. When there-





fore Smith met Warren on the streets and pursuant to a very noisy boast, he proceeded to cowhide Warren, he met with such sturdy resistance that he pulled a dirk and attempted to dispatch the anti-slavery nuisance at a blow. But here again, Senator Smith over-reached. Warren drew a pistol and Smith's very long legs could not carry him fast enough down the street. That incident carried a considerable weight against Smith and his cause as well as his paper, the last named suspending on the Saturday previous to the election of the first Monday in August, 1824. In the words of Judge Gillespie, "no two papers ever fought at such close quarters or with such direct personal animosity and bitterness as those two at Edwardsville."

Between the pamphleteer, Morris Birkbeck over in the Shawneetown paper at the extreme east, and Hooper Warren in the columns of the Spectator at the extreme west, every subterfuge and every man who used subterfuge to bring slavery in Illinois, were attacked and annihilated and at the election, the anti-slavery people were successful.

There were few neutrals. Henry Eddy of Shawneetown tried very hard to remain so, but once in a while words and items appeared which might be construed to the contrary. They never escaped the eye of Warren who invariably retorted so savagely that considerable time elapsed before Warren had occasion to direct his batteries toward Shawneetown, again.

I have stated that a coterie of men surrounded Warren and used his columns with telling effect. They were Governor Edward Coles, Congressman Daniel P. Cook, Judge Samuel D. Lockwood, Rev. Thomas Lippincott, Judge William H. Brown and George Churchill.

During this period of Warren's life, which was the most memorable, great personal bravery was required to act as Warren acted and in that respect it is important to notice that,—especially after the Smith incident, nobody



dared pursue him as Governor Coles was pursued and hounded, by civil and criminal prosecutions, hanging in effigy and burning of his property. E. A. Snively very justly has said of him: "He was one of the great men of his day. His bravery was a twin brother with his ability."

Warren's bravery should not be extended to include pugnacity because he insisted on being permitted to express his principles. The slavery people expressed themselves in no uncertain manner and that was all Warren desired for himself. He felt so strongly on the point that he showed a willingness to fight with fists, or anything else to sustain his rights.

Shortly after engaging in his newspaper work, a man named Watkins challenged some of Warren's opinions and a free fight followed between the two. He defended himself in that scrimmage just as he did when Smith attempted to cowhide him and he came off handsomely. Watkins was arrested; but because Edward Coles signed his bond, Warren opposed him for governor notwithstanding the fact that Coles was the only anti-slavery candidate in the field. His grievance must have faded though because Coles afterwards contributed considerable to the *Spectator* during the vicious campaign of 1823-4.

There were employed no superfluous words in Hooper Warren's famous *Spectator*. He printed as he talked, briefly and to the point and in language which attracted though it stung when directed at what he regarded a wrong or an abuse.

A very peculiar feature of the man's manner of working, especially during that exciting campaign was this: He rarely wrote his copy. Standing at the case, he always set up his thoughts as they crowded themselves forward and it is said of him that still more rarely did it become necessary to correct his proof. He was very accurate.

A distinction has been drawn between Warren's *Spectator* and Lovejoy's *Observer* by stating that Warren





was an anti-slavery man while Lovejoy was an abolitionist. The distinction is drawn rather too minutely to be recognized, though it may be stated, that in 1823, abolitionists and abolition societies had not reached the prairies of Illinois, the opponents of slavery directing their energies against slavery extension rather than against its existence.

Just why Warren should sever his connection with the *Spectator* especially while it enjoyed an apparent prosperity is not known. At the end of the Convention fight it had eclipsed the St. Louis papers in point of reputation. It may be he thought he could carry that reputation to a larger place and enhance it. But so it was in November, 1825, Hooper Warren severed his connection with the *Spectator*, turning it over to Rev. Thomas Lippincott and Jeremiah Abbott, and went to Cincinnati where he associated himself with the *National Crisis*, an anti-slavery paper. The change proved a disappointment however. He remained there less than a year when he returned to Edwardsville and re-entered into possession of the *Spectator*. On October 20, 1826, the last number of the *Spectator* was issued and the plant was removed to Springfield immediately thereafter, when the *Sangamo Spectator* was established; Springfield's first paper.

At that time Springfield was a land office town of some 600 population, boomed systematically and Edwards the owner and Warren may have expected a great deal of patronage, especially land office advertising,—as well as speculative ventures in land and also the creation in a new and growing country of some Edwards sentiment. The project promised much, but it flattened itself into miserable failure. 170 subscribers were as many as the paper could muster, notwithstanding the great size of Sangamon county and its respectability of numbers. Its first number appeared February 21, 1827. It struggled along a losing and impossible venture under Warren until fall, during most of which time he was trying to sell it.



At that time the lead mines country had great reputation for wealth and possibilities in every line of endeavor. People were flocking there in great numbers and Warren desired to go too, but his notions of duty were so nice that he refused to leave until a reasonable prospect of securing to Governor Edwards a return of his investment could be assured. At last one Samuel C. Meredith appeared and bought the property for \$1,000, and changed the paper's name to the Journal and Sangamo Gazette, February 16, 1829. Warren realized very soon thereafter that Meredith was so poor a manager that he never could succeed. Indeed before he closed the deal he believed him to be unfamiliar with the business and so wrote Gov. Edwards; but he honestly believed it was the only way out of a very bad mess. His 170 subscribers he declared he could not keep for renewals. Money was wretchedly scarce and in '28, he wrote to Edwards what to him was his greatest hardship to endure: "Newspapers at present have but little influence. The readers are but few, and these are taught to believe that all that appears in a newspaper is a lie of course."

Meredith went from bad to worse. He would order paper and forget his ink. Ink would come and he would be out of paper. Help was scarce and he was too indifferent to push the work himself and so a couple or more weeks would elapse between issues; sometimes more time would elapse.

Warren remained in Springfield looking for a location. During February and March, 1829, he had under consideration a proposal to go to Galena to engage in the newspaper business with Dr. Horatio Newhall and Dr. Addison Philleo, not from personal choice but because Gov. Edwards and other friends over the state proposed it. A possible partnership with Mr. Jones the then only printer at Galena was considered. He states that at first the proposal was repugnant but after a little reasoning, he fell in with the advice and through Dr. Newhall nego-





tiations with Jones were opened. But Jones declined a partnership.

On March 7, 1829, he wrote Governor Edwards that he had been helping Meredith; that two issues of the paper had been issued and a third was soon to appear and then, having no paper and with no arrangements for more. In this letter, Warren states to the governor that if the latter thought best, he would propose to Meredith to cancel the bargain and remove the plant to Galena.

At that time too, Warren manifests the ruling mania for office. He asks Edwards to intercede with President Jackson for an appointment. He also endeavors to make a date with Judge Young for the purpose of asking an appointment as clerk in one of the new counties to be organized in Judge Young's district.

Warren's stand with respect to the Springfield paper seems peculiar. On March 28, 1828, he wrote to Gov. Edwards that its location is improving, yet he follows the statement with the further one that of the 170 subscribers, "and when the year is up, it is probable that one-third or more will withdraw." For some reason or another he was very anxious to get away from Springfield. He had secured the publication of the United States laws and admits that when he shall receive the moneys for that service, he will have "enough to live on till that time."

He wanted to go out on the road as we would say now for Gatton and Enos to sell goods. He admits that he was not especially fitted for the work, "but I thought I might make a comfortable living by it."

It would seem that he desired to hide the ownership of Governor Edwards, and he suggests a form of advertisement to cover the case. He also states that \$750 should be a fair price for it, yet establishment well located "should command a premium of 50 or 100 per cent." The form of his advertisement was also to state that Springfield was removed from any other printing establishment and without probability of any rival establishment. One wou-



ders at what seems like instability when in the middle of his letter he says that "there is nothing that can sustain the paper but new type and its enlargement. This I am unable to do, nor would I be willing to accept the assistance of my friends to do it. I think you have gone as far in patronizing the press for public purposes as any man ought to do, without being better seconded by his friends, and I would advise you to make the most of this without regard to them."

On April first, 1828, he writes again to Edwards, "I am heartily tired of struggling for a subsistence in a laborious, unprofitable and thankless business." And yet he plunged into a very much more distressing time of it at Galena.

May 26 seems to be the first letter he writes from Galena. In that letter he intimates that he took back the plant from Meredith and shipped it to Galena because he says. "Those (materials) I sent to Beaird's Ferry on the Illinois river." Subsequent correspondence confirms such transfer. Warren's introduction to Galena upset all the brilliant visions he may have had about the riches of the lead mines. He told Edwards that he arrived in the place on the 17th instant by stage with his family. Further, "I find business here almost in the lowest state of depression."

The keg of ink he had purchased at St. Louis, did not arrive with the rest of the materials so that Dr. Philleo took the first returning boat down the river to look for it.

At this time too, Warren expresses to the governor the right to dictate the political policy of the paper and insofar as the political principles conflicted with his own he proposed in private to disown them. Therefore he suggested that Philleo be made the political manager of the political conscience. 230 subscribers were found for the paper before its first issue.

On August 16th, Warren finds himself hedged about with all manner of difficulties, the greatest of which was





ill health. He refers to the generous treatment of Edwards and he admits the ownership of Edwards in the paper, the Gazette and Upper Mississippi Herald. Warren does not like the drift of matters political. Help was scarce. He was compelled to do all the work himself. He had been compelled to ask credit for part of his passage money to that point. He had boarded with a very poor family who had not received a cent. He importuned his two doctor partners for money but they had none. His wife had been sick nearly all the time she resided there. Though almost out of courage, he finds no fault with Governor Edwards. Said he, "I would rather express it, that you have never wished to take advantage of my dependence."

The printing business must have been in a very low state indeed. His rival, Jones was in a very much worse condition. He had no paper, nor ink for two weeks, but what Warren loaned him, and he had no money to buy more.

He complains that while he had been doing all the work, the paper must come out one day late for the mail. Journeymen printers commanded ten dollars per week, but they were scarce. It should excite no surprise to notice his appeals to be given a clerkship under Judge Young.

By December first the subscription list had grown to 400, but scarcely any jobs came in and but little advertisements were offered him. "I am in purgatory now, and since I have been here."

On December 8th he told the governor he had bought 32 reams of paper on a credit of sixty days, of Tillson and Holmes, which would indicate that with all his trying penury, the newspaper man had credit. On December 16, he and Dr. Philleo had had some controversy about supporting a certain candidate whose principles did not appeal favorably to Warren. He quotes Philleo's remark:



"Where principle was the same, one was at liberty to go for interest."

Warren taught his two partners to set type in order to help out, but they no sooner learned to do it than they declined and so poor Warren had to assume all the responsibilities and the work while the doctors received the few straggling dollars which were earned. In a state of mental and physical collapse, Warren at last employed a certain discharged soldier who floated down from Fort Snelling. Philleo boarded him as an off-set to any little inconveniences arising to Warren like starvation. The soldier worked famously for a day or so, after which, as Warren said, he continued in a besotted condition.

The poor man worked on and on until at last he and his wife and his children were all stricken with fever and ague. For a day he crawled out of bed to help the other members of his family. Very presently, he found himself in a starving condition. On February 20, 1830, he wrote Edwards, "Thank God, the winter is over and I hope it is the last I shall ever spend in Galena unless I am better prepared. Since the commencement of cold weather there has been nothing here but balls, parties, gambling and frolicking." And poor Warren starving to death!

At about that time he rented a cottage for which he agreed to pay \$4.00 per month, but he expected to be turned out of it pretty soon because he had paid no rent and his wife had become reduced to a skeleton by sickness and starvation.

During those moments of anguish, his correspondence shows a remarkably temperate tone. He appeals for the appointment of a clerkship, yet he does not whine. It is done in a manly spirit of determination to brave his afflictions to the end.

At this period it is interesting to note how he regarded Chicago. Said he, speaking of Chicago and the hope that a special session of the legislature may organize the county at Chicago. "I have the best opinion of that place. It





does not in my view want a canal to make it." As great things were predicted from influence of the canal, he seems to have penetrated the future of the great city with a precision little less than prescience. It needed "only to put the land into market and it will settle with greater rapidity than any other town in the state." and then: "Between Warren county and Chicago, would prefer Chicago because I feel confident that it will be the principal commercial port in our state."

For a long time his cow had been the main sustenance of the family. But one day the cow died and the fortunes of Hooper Warren reached their lowest ebb. How many men could stand up under his misfortunes? And he such a slender, delicate man! He was courageous physically. He was willing to undertake any task, but with starvation staring him in the face, he might be said to be sinking fast. At the last moment relief came in the form of an appointment from Judge Young to the office of clerk of the circuit court for Putnam county and in the year 1831 he removed to Hennepin to take up the duties of his office.

From 1831 to 1836 he was circuit clerk. From 1831 to 1835 he was recorder of deeds. From 1831 to 1834 he was county clerk, holding all those offices at the same time as well as the office of Justice of the Peace.

He clung so tenaciously to his official duties that his name is scarcely found in the annals of Putnam's history. But he lived at Hennepin until the year 1839 when he moved to Henry Prairie and in the year 1841 he moved to the site of Henry.

The fees of his offices were small, but with his economies, he was enabled to purchase a piece of land, the one upon which he moved. With those little offices his tenure of office ended.

Like the martyrs, Warren was immoveable. Once his mind was made up, it remained. The story of the brandy was not a myth. Though he never belonged to a temperance society, he had that abhorrence of liquor that he



would prefer death to liquor. His habits too became so fixed that he could not have changed them had he tried. The story is told by Judge D. J. Carnes of Sycamore, a grand nephew, that upon one occasion when Warren had gone back to Vermont to visit the father of Judge Carnes, he desired to get shaved. There were razors to be had in the house; but Warren never had learned to shave himself and he had been shaved regularly so that Mr. Carnes had to hitch up the team and climb the hills which intervened to get the man to the barber's chair. It was not remarkable therefore that many classed him as a crank. He may have tended that way, but he was made of the stuff which is needed in times just like those of '61 and '65. When Warren accepted the appointment to go to Hennepin, he settled down upon a piece of land. He had been offered a subscription of 750 cash subscriptions to return to Springfield, but his experiences had been so bitter that as he said many times, he did not care to try a newspaper business again.

After his removal to Henry, he was drawn into several newspaper enterprises, but not so deeply as to interfere with his fixed determination never again to be drawn away from the soil very far. His Galena Gazette suspended with the issue of June 30, 1830. December 19, 1840, the LaSalle county anti-slavery society established The Genius of Liberty at Lowell. Zebina Eastman and Hooper Warren had charge of it until April, 1842. Three months later it resumed in Chicago as the Western Citizen. In 1851 he edited the Princeton Post for a short while. In 1852-3 he acted as the editor of the Western Citizen in conjunction with Zebina Eastman at Chicago. The paper was an anti-slavery and a temperance paper. In 1857, he went over to the same Lowell in LaSalle county and for a short while acted with Benjamin Lundy and Zebina Eastman on the Commercial Advertiser.

Warren was a singularly quiet man. He was taciturn to the last degree. His conversation was almost wholly in





monosyllables. He never tried to speak in public. He was a first class listener but after listening attentively and forming his judgment it was not to be changed. He was a tender hearted man. It distressed him to learn of others in pain; yet no man among the well known men of Illinois suffered anything like the pain Hooper Warren suffered. In his day, money was so scarce that most of his and other subscriptions were paid in commodities. The Illinois Gazette announced a scale of prices and a list of acceptable goods. The publishers announced that they would receive in payment of subscriptions: clean linen and cotton rags, and in payment of subscriptions and advertisements, bacon, tallow, beeswax, feathers, hides, deer-skins and pork.

Printing of the United States laws was one of the chief items of support in those days. Next, the contributions made by aspiring politicians formed a conspicuous part of the printer's income. The list of 400 which he had in Galena was considered by others down the state to be a good living list. Official county notices and proceedings of boards afforded a substantial part of the income. But add them all together, the printer who had no other employment fared very poorly. In most instances of early Illinois history, the publishers had other lines of employment, like with Henry Eddy the newspaper was made to serve a personal ambition rather than a source of income.

In 1857 we find that Warren was a member of the Chicago Historical Society.

In 1812, Hooper Warren married Mary Adamson. His mother's name was Hooper. His influence for good was great and during the Civil War he worked incessantly in many ways to further the Federal cause. In 1864 while on a visit to Chicago to see about some important arrangements connected with sending supplies southward he was taken ill. At once he started for his home to which he had retired in 1856. At Mendota, he stopped off to see his



son-in-law, Edwin Littlefield who lived there, and in a few days he died<sup>1</sup> and his body was removed to Henry where it was buried beside his wife who had preceded him in 1850.

By keeping his Henry land, he died worth a considerable property.

He left surviving him four children, Matilda, who married a Mr. Clarkson; Mary Emma, who married Mr. Edwin Littlefield; John Adamson Warren and Winslow Seth Warren.

As a writer, Warren had a style, which was simple, direct, courteous, chaste, accurate and effective. He employed words easily understood. His sentences were short. Isabel Jamison has said that he was a writer of marked ability.

The last years of his life were spent to a considerable extent in correcting the historical errors made by Reynolds, Ford and other writers. Some of those letters I have before me and in giving some of my dates which conflict with history, I have taken them from his corrections.

Warren was a religious man though not moved by sudden impulse. His people were members of the Christian church and so was he a member.

This effort to secure data and put in form a suitable sketch of a truly grand man's life, has proved distressingly unsatisfactory. My principal authority did not know his grandmother's maiden name. Judge Carnes supplied that. Not a person nor a book could give any information of Warren's school life. To get a reply to every one of my letters required at least six months of "follow up" pounding. At the last minute I found the name of a relative in Louisville who was said to have accurate knowledge of the Warren ancestry. No address

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<sup>1</sup> August 22, 1864.





was given. My letter to the general delivery was returned. At once I communicated the circumstance to my informant, but from past experience it will be next summer sometime before my inquiry will receive an answer. I am compelled therefore, to confess to keen disappointment in this story.



## PREHISTORIC ILLINOIS.

ITS PSYCHOZOIC PROBLEMS.

Dr. J. F. Snyder.

In one of his reminiscences of Indian warfare in the west, that appeared in a recent popular magazine,<sup>1</sup> General Nelson A. Miles thus speculates concerning the American Indians; "whence they came, and when, we know not; but if we were to judge from their stature, features, color, language, art, music, and many of their characteristics, we would be convinced that their ancestors were of Asiatic origin. There is evidence that they acquired control of this continent by conquest, rather than by peaceful means. Their displacement of the prehistoric races undoubtedly required centuries of time."

This view of America's aborigines—entertained by many—suggests two pertinent questions, namely; what evidence have we to sustain the assumption that the Indians acquired control of this continent by conquest? And, what prehistoric races did they displace?

This second inquiry should be first answered, as the existence of prehistoric races here before the Indians came, must be proven to establish the fact of conquest.

The first peopling of America is manifestly an abstruse problem; as chaotic as the history of the human race as based upon the Mosaic record and chronology of Bishop Usher. But though the investigations of prehistoric archaeologists have rendered untenable the Usherian interpretation of events, and have apparently firmly fixed

<sup>1</sup> The Cosmopolitan Magazine, April, 1911.





the conviction of man's high antiquity in Europe, they have failed to bring to light indubitable proofs of his pre-glacial presence in America.

Admitting the common belief that the Indians were exotic in the western hemisphere, their possession of it, if by conquest, was, inferentially, by overcoming an earlier indigenous race now extinct. No vestige of such an extinct race has yet been discovered. There are, however, well-informed anthropologists who cling in belief to the autochthonous origin of the American Indian—that he was “to the manor born,” created here. And some even attribute to him—believing America to be the oldest of the continents—ancestry of the Asiatic races. And why not? There is certainly no physical or physiological obstacle fatal to its possibility.

But there is no postulate of science so generally accepted as that of the unity of the human family. If, then, scions of a primal genus, the first Indians here were immigrants from foreign lands, their conquests were of wild animals and wild forces of nature. They found here no prior occupants to contend with them for supremacy. There are various opinions regarding the date of their coming, the soundest of which can not be more than vague conjecture. Computing time by the scale of months and years, their arrival was undoubtedly very far in the distant past; but reckoning time by geologic epochs, they are but of yesterday.

Prof. Baldwin, one of the most zealous supporters of the Indian's extreme antiquity, strangely advanced this argument in proof of it: “None of these works (mounds and inclosures) occur on the lowest-formed of the river terraces, which mark the subsidence of the western streams; and as there is no good reason why their builders have avoided erecting them on that terrace, while they raised them promiscuously on all the others, it



follows, not unreasonably, that this terrace has been formed since the works were erected."<sup>2</sup>

This author was a fair sample of the library investigator, and knew nothing of the big Beardstown mound, the Baehr mounds in Brown county, the great Etowah mound in Georgia, the group of stupendous mounds on the American Bottom, and the hundreds of others known to be unquestionably artificial in structure, similarly built, of drift clay brought from the distant bluffs, on low alluvial river bottoms—the most recent of terrace deposits—and many of them in close proximity to the streams.

More practical investigators observing the startling revelations of primal man's existence disclosed by the glacial gravels of France, concluded that the history and course of primitive man was, logically, the same on both hemispheres, and searched industriously for evidence of his presence in the Tertiary, or Pleistocene, formations of this country. Occasional discoveries seemed to realize their expectations, as the rude quartz flakes from old moraines at Little Falls, Minnesota; the hearth with its debris of ashes, bone-fragments and charcoal, 22 feet down in the post-glacial terrace on the south shore of Lake Ontario; Dr. Claypole's grooved stone ax brought up from twenty-odd feet beneath the surface at New London, Ohio; the fragment of a human femur, showing glacial striæ and human manipulation, found 21 feet down in true glacial gravels; the artifacts of argillaceous chert recovered from the Trenton, N. J. gravels; the famous Calaveras skull imbedded in auriferous gravels overlaid with several stratas of volcanic tufa and lava, 130 feet below the surface of Table Mountain in California; the Lansing skull from 20 feet of undisturbed silt forming an ancient terrace of the Missouri river

<sup>2</sup> Ancient America. By J. D. Baldwin, New York, 1872, p. 47.





near Lansing, Kansas; and other instances indicating that man was here at a very early period.

The archaeologist, however, was not permitted to monopolize those precious antiquities to bolster up his preconceived theories. The astute geologist intrusively applied the tests of his science, and proved conclusively that the water-worn matrix imbedding those relics was in no instance near so old as the relic-hunters claimed them to be. And the craniologist demonstrated the fact that the human skulls were of the same round (*brachycephalic*) type and development as those of modern Indians; and, further, that the associated stone implements, etc., were of the neolithic era, and decidedly recent.

The latest of the earth's great catastrophes, the Glacial Period, occurred long ago. Yet, science presumes to determine its date, approximately, by our present chronological scale. Geikie says: "Upwards of 200,000 years ago the earth, as we know from the calculations of astronomers, was so placed in regard to the sun that a series of physical changes was induced, which eventually resulted in conferring upon our hemisphere a most intensely severe climate. All northern Europe and northern America disappeared beneath a thick crust of ice and snow, and the glaciers of such regions as Switzerland assumed gigantic proportions."<sup>3</sup> And the glacial epoch, according to Croll, extended here over a period of 80,000 years.<sup>4</sup>

The American ice sheet—perhaps a mile or more in thickness over the area of our great northern lakes—covered Illinois, excepting a small northwestern corner, as far down as Jonesboro and Shawneetown, receding for awhile, then again advancing, and finally very slowly disappeared by melting away. The valley of the St.

<sup>3</sup> The Great Ice Age. James Geikie, F. R. S. E., F. G. S., New York. D. Appleton & Co., 1874, p. 469.

<sup>4</sup> Climate And Time. By James Croll, Geologist of Scotland. New York, 1874. D. Appleton & Co., p. 328.



Lawrence, as far up as Lake Erie, remained filled with ice long after the water-sheds farther west were freed from their gradually retreating glaciation. Consequently, the waters of Lake Michigan rose to the height of the old Chicago beach lines, and then escaped, in great volume, through the valley of the Illinois river. In course of time the St. Lawrence ice barrier was removed, thereby restoring the eastern outlet of the Lakes, lowering Lake Michigan to its present level, and relieving the Illinois river valley of its immense enforced drainage.

For many centuries during and after the Ice Age, Illinois was a barren desolation in which terrestrial life was impossible. The great pachyderms, the mastodons and mammoths, that for ages had held undisputed sway over forest and plain, together with the entire primal fauna and flora, were swept away and buried in the mass of detritus left by the departed ice, commensurate in extent with the ice-covered area. That crushed, ground, water-worn material—classified by geologists as “mantle rock,” “boulder clay, or till,” and “glacial drift, or loess”—deposited from 1 to 450 feet in thickness, wrought vast changes in the physiography of our State by filling river beds and valleys, diverting streams in other courses, and giving the average surface its present topographical flatness.<sup>5</sup> Within ten or twelve hundred centuries following the last recession of the ice fields, the process of transforming Illinois from a lifeless solitude to a theatre of teeming animation, by the agencies of rain and frost, wind and sunshine, was slowly accomplished. Life, both animal and vegetable, first appeared in the rivers and lakes. Vegetation cautiously creeping landward, spread, flourished, and, by succession of growth and decay for ages coated the drift sands and clays with productive soil.

<sup>5</sup> See the very interesting and instructive monograph by Prof. Harlan H. Barrows; entitled, “Geography of the Middle Illinois Valley,” published as Bulletin 15 of the Illinois State Geological Survey.





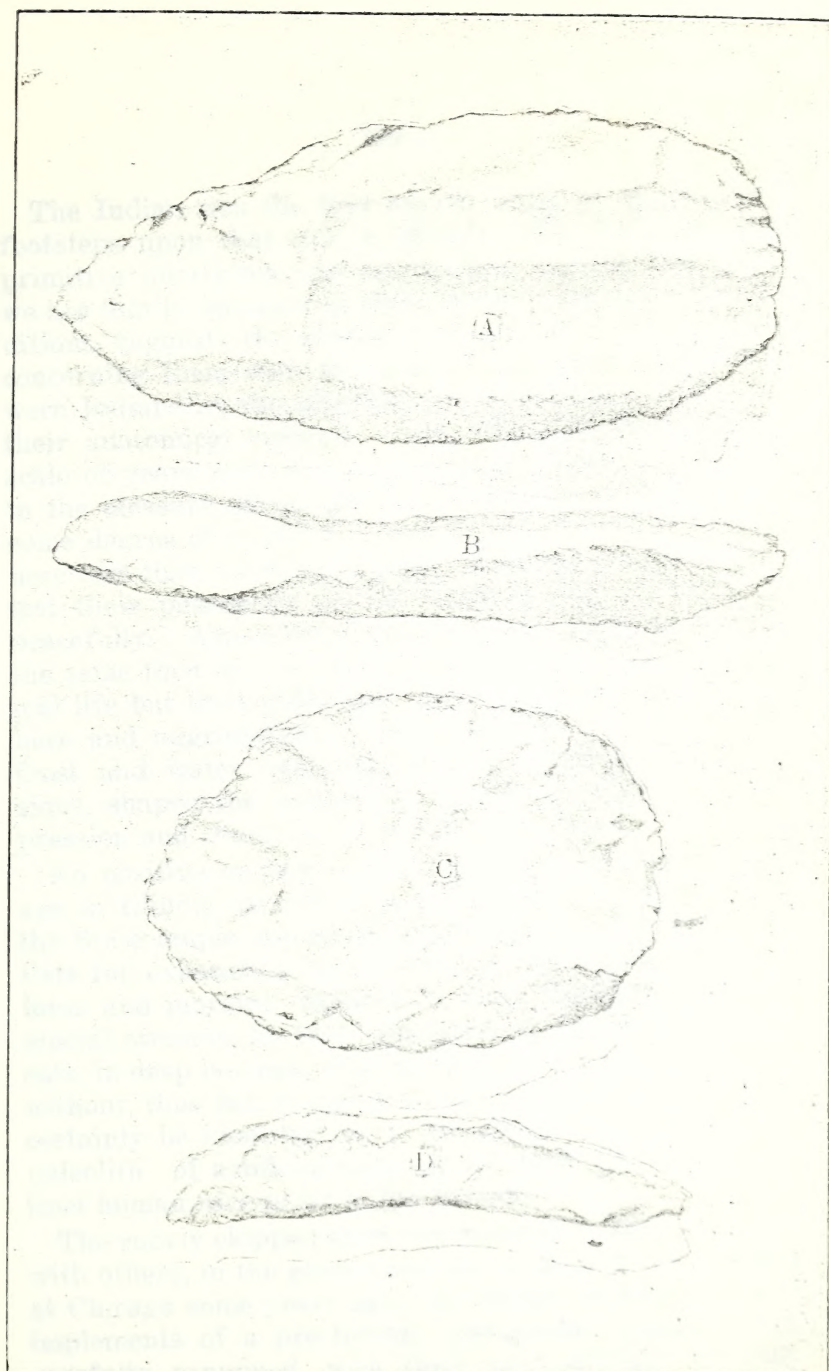


PLATE I.

- A. C. Side View of Flint Implements.  
B. D. Edge View of Same.



The Indian was the first human being to implant his footsteps upon that soil in Illinois. The fact that the primitive aborigines left no written records, and that we are totally ignorant of their origin, language and traditions, suggests the wisdom of formulating conclusions concerning them with the utmost care. We know they were Indians by the physical and biological evidence of their anatomical remains. And, although the analyst's scale of years and centuries can not reliably be applied to the measure of cosmic time, it can be asserted with some degree of confidence that the first Indians arrived here less than 2,000 years ago. Meeting no one to contest their possession of the country, they occupied it peacefully. Atmospheric and climatic conditions were the same then as now, and the ecology of plant and animal life but little different. The forces of rains, winds, here and aggradations there, as still in action, had frost and water currents—causing erosions and abrasions, shaped the surface of Illinois and had given expression and charm to its varied landscapes.

No positive evidence of the existence of a Paleolithic age in Illinois has yet been discovered. In all parts of the State ample opportunities have been afforded scientists for exhaustive examination of its mantle rock, till, loess and moraine deposits in their bisections by post-glacial streams, by their exposure in numerous railroad cuts, in deep borings, well-digging and other excavations, without, thus far, bringing to light any object that could certainly be identified as a pre-glacial or inter-glacial paleolith of artificial shaping; or other proof of an extinct human race prior to the Indians.

The rudely chipped flints represented in Plate 1, found, with others, in the glacial gravels of the old lake beaches at Chicago some years ago, and widely proclaimed to be implements of a pre-Indian, pre-glacial, people, were carefully examined, with their surroundings, by competent archaeologists who, observing they were there





associated with camp refuse of recent Indians, and discovering that similar objects of the same material and same style of workmanship were common surface finds in many localities, pronounced them of no greater age than the mounds, and geologically quite modern. Reviewing the many claims for man's high antiquity in America, Professor Hrdlicka says: "The evidence as a whole only strengthens the conclusion that the existence on this continent of a man of distinctly primitive type and of exceptional geological antiquity has not as yet been proved."<sup>6</sup>

Well-marked characteristics of all physical remains of the pre-Columbian people of America, from the Arctic zone to Terra del Fuego, conclusively testify to the fact that they were one distinct homogeneous race; divided, however, into many cultural groups denoting various stages of development. They were all red Indians, and very probably their initial tribes occupied the subtropical regions of this continent during, and long before, the Ice Period.

Early Indian migrations followed—though not invariably—the principal water courses. Traced by similarity of skeleton structure, and analogous artifacts, warrants the assertions that the first human beings in Illinois were Indians who followed the Mississippi up from the south, and slowly moving northward, finally located in the territory between that great stream and the Illinois river. They were mound builders, wholly dependent for subsistence upon the chase and native products; and were adepts in the neolithic culture of the Stone Age, but had not mastered the ceramic art. Their advent here may have been a dozen centuries ago; but since their arrival no striking physiographical mutations in the State's surface have occurred. Minor topographical changes are occasionally observed which seemingly indicate a vast

<sup>6</sup> Bulletin No. 34 of the U. S. Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, D. C., 1909.



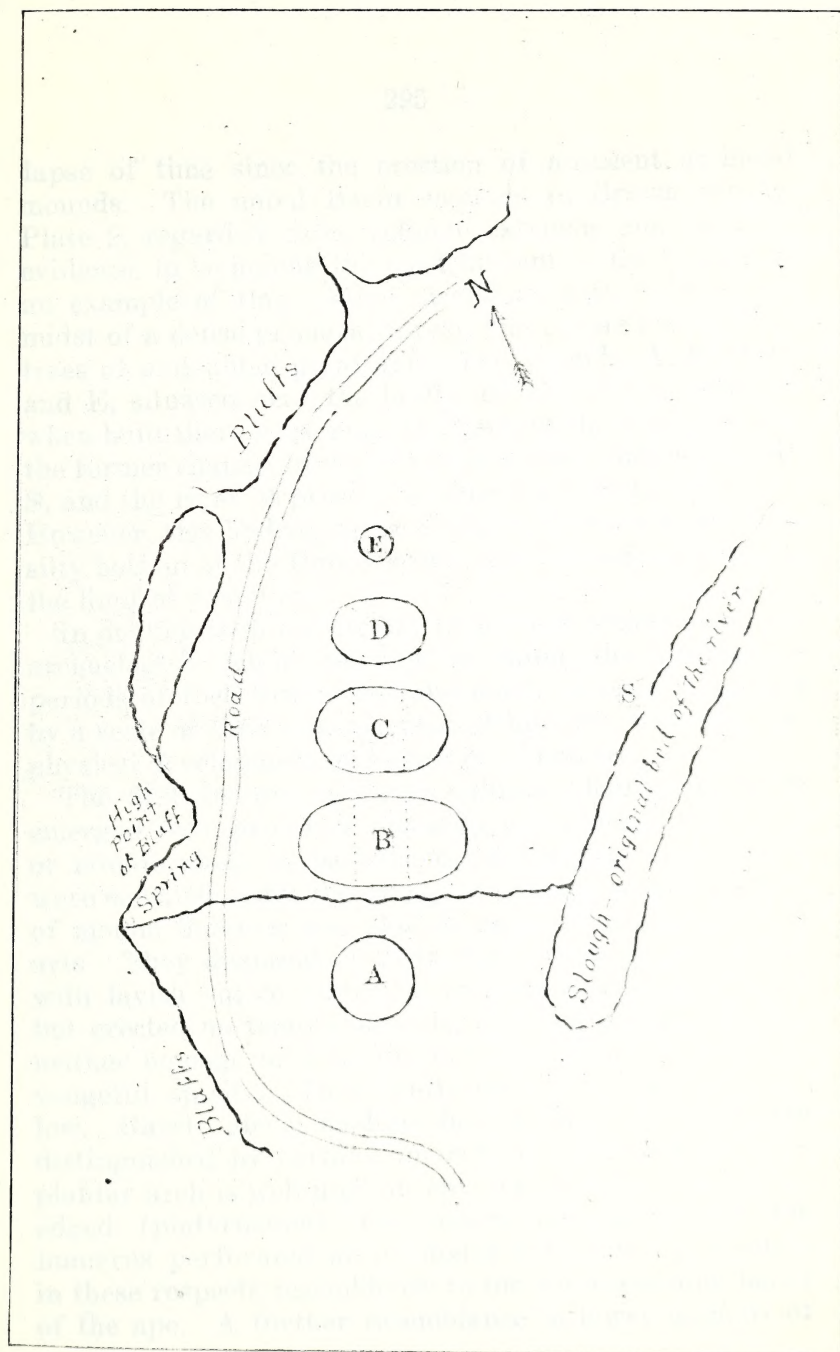


PLATE II.

The Baehr Mounds, near LaGrange, Brown County, Ill.





lapse of time since the erection of adjacent artificial mounds. The noted Baehr mounds in Brown county, Plate 2, regarded, from reliable extrinsic and intrinsic evidence, to be among the most ancient in the State, are an example of this. When first seen they were in the midst of a dense primeval forest, and covered with large trees of undoubted great age. The mounds, A, B, C, D, and E, situated near the bluffs, on the alluvial bottom, when built there were upon the bank of the Illinois river, the former channel of which is now a long shallow slough, S, and the river at present is almost a mile farther east. However, this hydrographic change of course in the flat, silty bottom of the Illinois could easily be effected within the limit of a century.<sup>7</sup>

In dealing with the history of ancient society here, the archaeologist, while bearing in mind the geologist's periods of rock formations and earth changes, is guided by a scale of time measurement of his own, with units of physical development and degrees of culture.

The first Indians invading Illinois had somewhere emerged from primitive savagery and reached the lower or middle plane of barbarism. Of roving habits, they were elevated above the savage state only in their custom of mound building and skill in some of the mechanical arts. They disposed of their dead, often by cremation, with lavish votive offerings, in huge sepulchral tumuli, but erected no temple mounds, their mythology inciting neither homage or worship, but only dread of mythical vengeful spirits. Their anthropometric standard was low. Rarely above medium height, their skeletons are distinguished by certain amorphous peculiarities. The plantar arch is well-nigh absent, the tibia flat and sharp-edged (platycnemic), the coccyx elongated, and the humerus perforated at its distal extremity—presenting in these respects resemblance to the corresponding bones of the ape. A further resemblance to lower animals of

<sup>7</sup> The American Archaeologist. Columbus, Ohio, 1898. Vol. II, p. 16.



anthropoid type is observed in the conformation of their crania, (A, B, Plate III), the protruding supraorbital ridges, the narrow, retreating forehead, low facial angle, and face strongly phognathus.

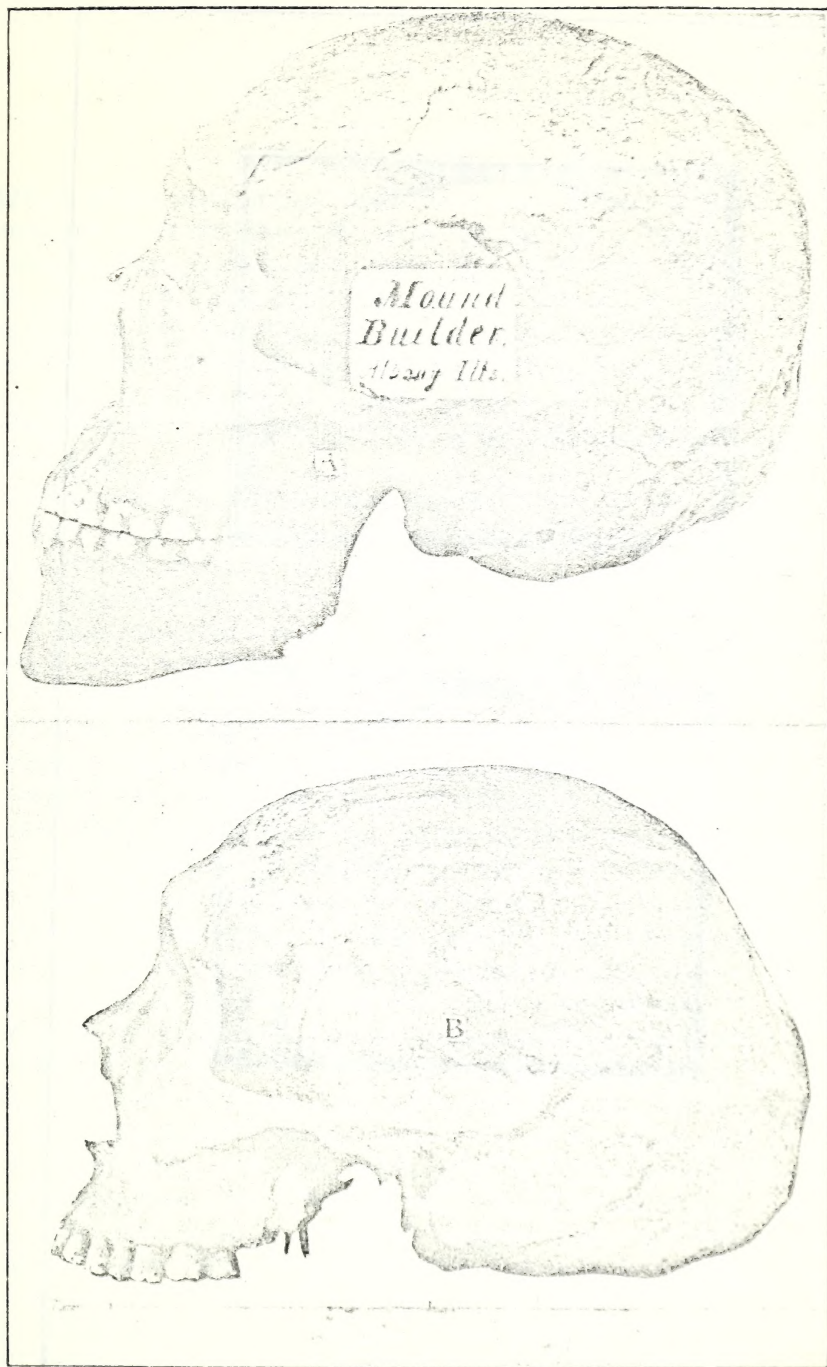
In 1866 Hon. Murray McConnel, of Jacksonville, sent the Smithsonian Institute the skull of one of those Indians (A, Plate IV), with the following explanatory letter: "I have sent you by express a small box containing a human skull of an unusual shape and formation. It is evidently not deformed, but a natural skull, and from its shape and the place where it was found, it is believed not to have belonged to any race of men now known to exist, and it is conjectured it may have belonged to a preadamite race, if there was any such race. \* \* \* I have never met with such a formed head as this either living or dead. \* \* \* and will now refer particularly to the place where it was found. \* \* \* Along the Illinois (river) bluff the strata of rock covering the coal deposit crop out, and this rock is quarried for building purposes. In one of these quarries a few miles south of the fortieth degree of north latitude this skull was found. Several feet of clay, sand and broken stone were taken off the strata, and, in quarrying, a rift or seam in the rock was found, about three feet wide, filled with the same material that covered the quarry, and in this rift or seam in the rock, firmly imbedded in this clay; sand, and broken rock, this skull was found. Examination showed that it had evidently been thrown, or washed into that opening in the rock with the material that surrounded it."<sup>s</sup>

That Indian skull secured by Gen. McConnel, now in the National Museum, numbered 24,388, was considered a natural freak, or the undeveloped cranium of an idiot, and exceptional. But in course of time skulls of the same

<sup>s</sup> Bulletin 34 of U. S. Bureau of American Ethnology, p. 87.





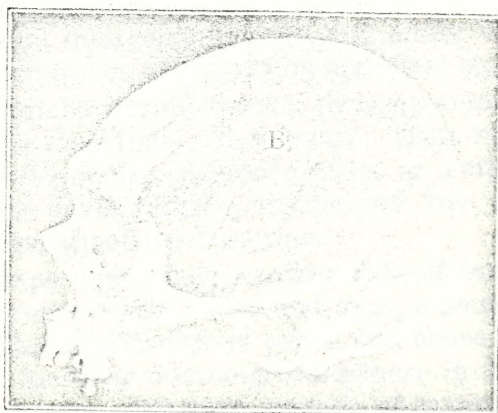
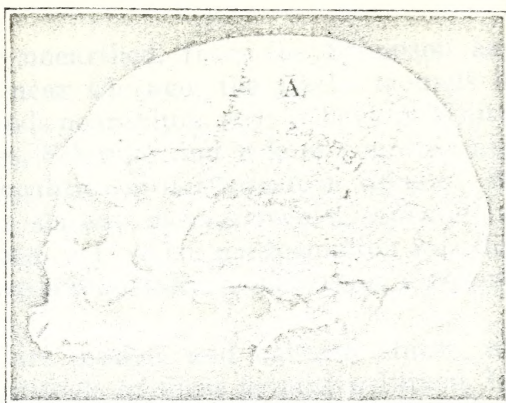


### PLATE III.

A. From a Mound near Albany, Whiteside Co., Ill., in the Museum of the Davenport, Iowa, Academy of Science.

B. From a Mound in Schuyler Co., Ill. (Author's collection.)





#### PLATE IV.

A. The McConnel, or Rock Bluff Skull. From Brown County, Illinois.

B. Indian Skull from a Mound near Alton, Ill., in the National Museum.





conformation were unearthed, from the Stimpson and Kennicott mounds near Chicago, the Baehr mounds in Brown county, mounds near Alton, near Albany in Whiteside county, in Cass, Schuyler and Adams counties, and from many other localities in northwestern Illinois. So uniform were their shapes, measurements, cephalic index, etc., that all idea of freakish malformation was dispelled, and they were recognized as constituting a generic racial type.

Concurrence of art motive, and cultural status, observed in certain artifacts of these primitive Illinois Indians and of those of the earliest mound builders of Ohio,—the absence of temple mounds, similarity of mortuary customs, and identity of skeletal deficiencies, in both, tend to strengthen the supposition that they were contemporaneous and intercommunicant, and either cognate peoples, or derivatives of a common ancestral stock.

Those pioneer Indians remained upon their preempted portion of Illinois a long time. How long? Then what caused their final departure, disappearance, or extinction? are questions unanswerable, riddles of the anthropologist and despair of the historian.

They were perhaps gone when another tide of immigration from the south—Indians also, but of an advanced grade—came to Illinois by the same route, and chose the American Bottom for their dominion; and there in time erected the well known elaborate system of mounds. These new-comers were semi-sedentary, and agriculturists to a considerable extent, cultivating corn, cotton, tobacco, and beans, and had dogs, remote descendents of the domesticated wolf. Skilled and esthetic stone workers, they carved it in form of images, and moulded images of clay. They spun the cotton and wove it deftly; and their fictile ware was the acme of aboriginal pottery art. They were sun worshipers, and probably burned their dead, as no cemeteries of theirs have yet been discovered. The few of their remains recovered prove them



to have exceeded the first Indians in stature, and in cranial and skeletal development.

About the time the temple mound builders settled on Cahokia creek, or some time before, another swarm of Indians, from the south—or possibly they were a colony from the early occupants of Ohio—ascended the Wabash and its tributaries, and left their impress there in the form of ordinary sepulchral and memorial mounds, and the usual implements and imperishable residuum of the Stone Age.

Time passed, and the great mounds on the American Bottom were old, grass-grown, and weather seamed,—perhaps abandoned—, when a new element of population appeared there known as the Stone Grave Indians. Their route of migration from the parent hive in the Cumberland Valley of Tennessee, is readily traced by their mode of burial in stone-lined graves. The first objective point they sought in the new country north of the Ohio was the Saline Springs in Gallatin county. From there they wandered west to the Mississippi; thence, by slow stages, continued along its bluffs to the Falling Spring east of Cahokia. Abiding there awhile they left Illinois, crossing the great river, and disappeared in the wilds of Missouri. The only mounds they built were aggregations of stone cists, containing their dead, piled together in tiers on the ground and covered over with earth. They excelled all their kindred in the Mississippi Valley in the arts of domestic life, and particularly in sculpture, flint chipping, and pottery making.

"Progress, on the whole," says Ex-President Roosevelt, "has been rhythmic, long periods of retrogression succeeding the periods when the world has gone forward."<sup>9</sup> This is especially true so far as relates to the history of primitive American Indians. Beyond doubt the tendency of the race was, in the main, to a higher

<sup>9</sup> The Outlook. New York. May 14th, 1911.





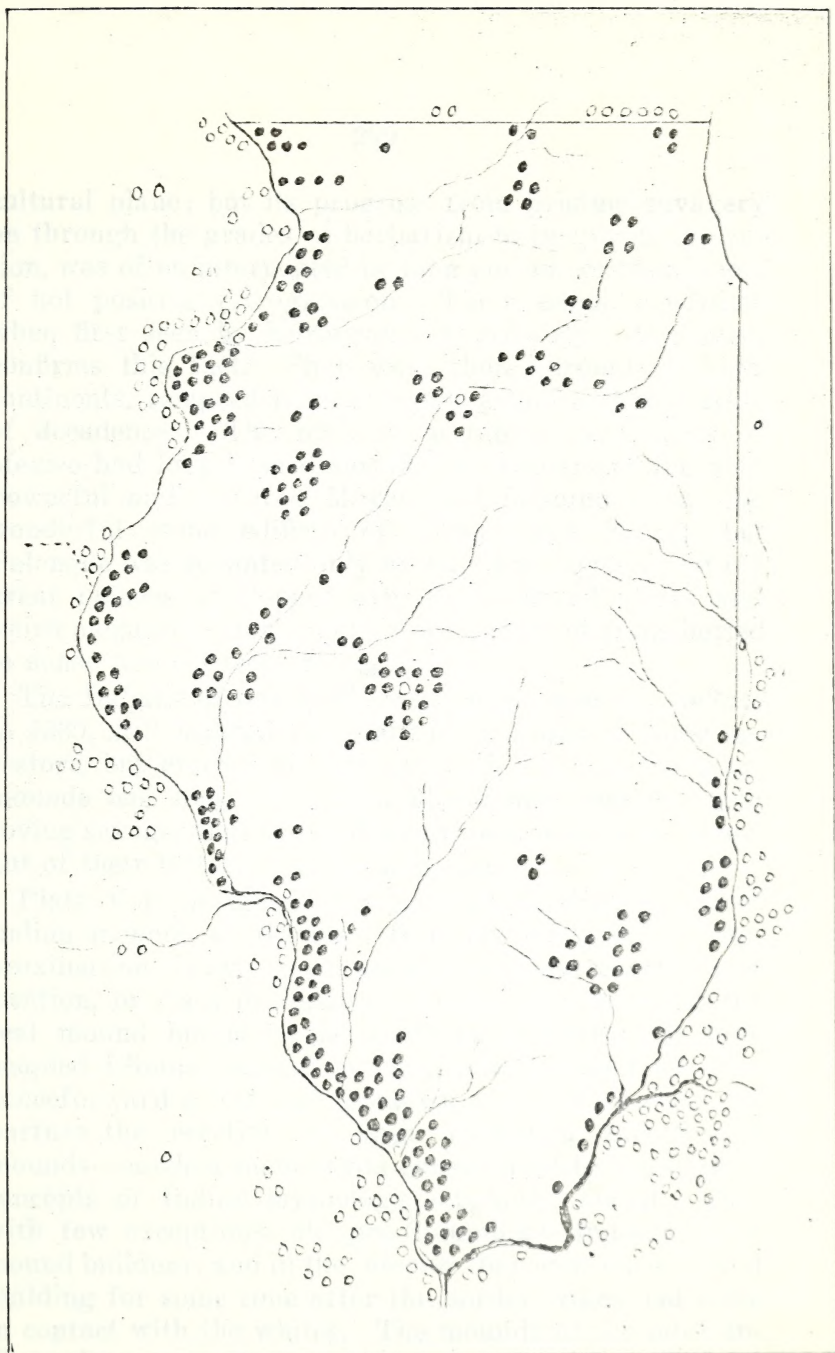


PLATE V.

Indian Mounds of Illinois.

(From the 12th Annual Report of the U. S. Bureau of  
Ethnology.)



cultural plane; but its progress from pristine savagery on through the grades of barbarism to incipient civilization, was often interrupted by long periods of stagnation, if not positive retrogression. Their ethnic condition when first seen by Europeans, if properly interpreted, confirms this fact. They were then, throughout both continents, relapsed from a higher estate and in a state of decadence. The majestic pyramids and cities of Mexico had long been deserted. A remnant of the once powerful and cultured Mayas still lingered about the wonderful stone edifices of Uxmal and Kabah, but Palenque was tenanted only by bats and snakes, and the great palaces of Copan, with their carved altars and weird megalithic monuments, were a mass of ruins buried in dense tangled tropical vegetation.

The Indians of our Gulf states, when seen by DeSoto in 1539, still utilized the platform mounds of their ancestors, but erected no new ones. In Illinois the large mounds had long since been abandoned, and the wild roving savages that prowled about them were more ignorant of their history than we now are.

Plate V is designed to represent the distribution of Indian mounds in Illinois. It is obviously but an approximation, drawn on too small a scale for exactness of location, or class designation. With the exodus of the real mound builders—the southern Indians who first peopled Illinois—mound building ceased, and they were henceforward a lost and unknown race. With their departure the erection of large memorial and temple mounds—earthen monuments consecrated to the highest concepts of Indian mythology—abruptly ended. But, with few exceptions, all pre-Columbian Indians were mound builders; and in the interior they continued mound building for some time after the border tribes had come in contact with the whites. The mounds of the later Indians, however, were merely surface burials. Without the knowledge, appliances, or industry, for digging





graves, they placed their dead on the ground enveloped in dressed skins, then covered them with bark—stones sometimes—and threw sufficient earth over them to protect the remains from the ravages of wolves and other wild animals. They are the mounds that crown the peaks and ridges of almost all our river bluffs.

Nothing is definitely known of the conditions or events that caused the older (real) mound builders to disappear from Illinois. Two theories have been advanced for solution of the problem, both plausible but neither capable of satisfactory demonstration. The one is the demoralization of their culture and progress wrought by the advent of the buffalo; the other (and more probable) is the invasion of their territory by the savage Algonkins. The buffalo was a late arrival, not reaching Illinois a great while before Columbus first sighted Cat Island. As nearly as can be "guessed," the first Bisons made their way to the east side of the Mississippi by following down the Saskatchewan, skirting lakes Winnipeg, Superior and Michigan, and from Illinois ranged eastward to Niagara Falls, thence turning south crossed the Alleghenies in Pennsylvania, and spread over the western portion of Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, and reached the Atlantic coast in Georgia and northwestern Florida. Their principal habitat no doubt was the open prairie regions north of the Ohio, and only severity of winter weather forced them temporarily into the Gulf States. They were never very numerous on this side of the Mississippi, not thriving well on the coarse indigenous grass of our prairies. In De Soto's march from Georgia to the Mississippi in 1539-41, he did not see, or hear anything of, the buffalo, which, it must be inferred, had not yet reached that latitude.

Theorists claim that the incoming herds of buffalos affording the sedentary mound builders a new element of food, so bountiful and easily secured, that they abandoned their mounds and agriculture, and degenerated to



wild savage hunters. The significant fact, however, that no bones or horns of the buffalo have been found in Indian mounds, and are very seldom, if ever, seen in the debris of their ancient camp and village sites, is reasonable presumptive evidence that the old mound builders were long since gone when the buffalo arrived here.

When the French took possession of the St. Lawrence, in 1603, they found in that region three powerful Indian nations, the Algonkins, Hurons and Iroquois, bitterly hostile to each other. The Algonquian family, the most numerous, prolific, and migratory of the three, even then extended from Labrador to the Rocky Mountains in numberless tribes and subdivisions. The Chippewas, Sioux, Blackfeet, and other offshoots of that family, roamed over the western plains following the great herds of buffalos there. They overran Illinois before the buffalo did, but after the old mound builders had left. When asked who built the mounds they answered, "Nobody knows; they were always here."

At the dawn of our Illinois history the Algonkins were here as Miamas, Potawatomis, the Illinois confederacy, Sacs and Foxes, Kickapoos, Winnebagos and Shawnees. One of their small sub-tribes very early located in southern Wisconsin and partly in Illinois and Iowa, and there developed the unique custom of effigy, or totem mound building. They were all characterically restless, unstable nomads, moving from place to place, and usually at war with each other, or with their ancient hereditary enemy, the Iroquois. In this State they were all of the hunter class, but a few of the tribes, as the Illinois, were to a limited extent also tillers of the soil, raising corn and tobacco. In the main they disposed of their dead in small mounds, but some deposited them in trees or on scaffolds, and there left them to be disintegrated and dispersed by the elements.





NOTE—It is frankly admitted that the foregoing cursory sketch of the first stocking of Illinois with the genus homo is largely hypothetical. Necessarily so, because of the paucity of reliable data. Much of it is speculation, with some facts upon which to base sound deductive reasoning. The remains of our aboriginal predecessors and their arts—wholly ignored by the State and neglected by its educators—have been so long debauched, plundered, and wasted, by ignorant relic hunters and venal curio dealers that but a remnant of them is now available for intelligent investigation and study. Still, it can be confidently asserted that the limited researches in Illinois by capable scholars versed in the science of prehistoric anthropology, well sustain the general deductions of this paper.



## EARLY RELIGIOUS BEGINNINGS IN ILLINOIS.

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AN ADDRESS BY REV. RUSSELL F. THRAPP, JACKSONVILLE, ILL.  
DELIVERED AT THE STATE CONVENTION OF THE DISCIPLES  
OF CHRIST, HELD AT DANVILLE, ILLINOIS,  
SEPT. 4-7, 1911.

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To write the history of any state that has made an impression for good upon the world is to recount the deeds of the moral leaders who were its first settlers. If we go backward through the centuries, where shall we find a great commonwealth, that was not founded by a moral teacher? Abraham, the founder of the Hebrew commonwealth, a moral leader; Moses, accomplishing the redemption of Israel and establishing the theocracy in the Promised Land, a moral leader; the Greek Cities trace their beginnings back to men who stand for wisdom and morals; Martin Luther stands back of modern Germany; religious teachers back of Holland; back of the Pilgrim Fathers we behold the form of the preacher, John Robinson. In the settlement of the great West, a minister led the first group of pilgrims across the Alleghanies. The history of Iowa, Illinois and other western states is one story. Twenty-five home missionaries led twenty-five different bands of colonists out of New England, to settle these middle states. They were men who believed in God, in Jesus and in the Bible. Like Abram of old, they were led by the unseen hand out from the eastern land into a new, to establish a great country with institutions that would bless the world. These were men of faith, not infidels or sceptics; not those in search of the golden fleece, but impelled with a holy desire to advance the Kingdom of God.





In these days of materialism, with its rush for preferment, glory and wealth, we do well to recount the deeds of our fathers, that we may pledge ourselves to live nobly for those institutions for which they nobly died. Our generation makes much of the men who equip the state, who clothe the state, and feed the state; it is in danger of overlooking those who instruct the state, who inspire, exalt and refine the moral sentiments of all the people. John Mason Peck, one of the first protestant missionaries to enter Illinois, represents in sentiment all those early religious and moral leaders: "I have put my hand to the plow! O Lord, may I never turn back, never regret this step. It is my desire to live, to labor, to die as a kind of pioneer in advancing the gospel. I feel a most heavenly joy when my heart is engaged in this work." These men toiled for the regeneration of the individual citizen. They sought with their whole strength, as the tide of humanity moved westward, to lift men steadily upward in moral and spiritual aspiration and achievement. They labored with scant praise of men, to the end that moral and spiritual progress might keep pace with material advancement. Verily, there were giants in those days.

Then New England grew great men. Great in soul and heart. University men and at the same time religious to the centre. When in the isolation of New England, they had developed their message and were ready as evangelists to the great west, then in 1789 the barriers went down, and our fathers on foot and horseback started for the Mississippi Valley. It was a strange procession that formed that morning in front of the church at Ipswich, Mass. It was led by Manasseh Cutler. Men in hunter's garb, boys carrying their guns, woodsmen with axes, pack-horses heavily laden—all these made up a strange procession when they marched away. Some of them came to Illinois and founded Illinois College, Knox and Lake Forest and Shurtleff Colleges. Some went to Iowa and founded Iowa College, Tabor and two acad-





emies. Groups of theological students banded themselves together. They determined to take the west for higher education. These were picked men, the finest scholars of their era. They were statesmen; witness the fight that they and their sons made for liberty. The Christian home, the Christian Church, the Christian College and the free school were the instruments they fitted for the development of manhood. On their way to this new State one day they paused on the summit of the Alleghanies, and the leader placed his hand to his ear and stood in the attitude of an eager listener. "What do you hear?" whispered one of his companions, fearing an ambush of Indians. Uncovering his head, the leader answered, "I hear the tramp of coming millions." He might have dreamed what an English manufacturer has lately said, that the Mississippi Valley is to become the Birmingham and the Sheffield of the future. On this procession came and founded here the institutions we love. Enemies have arisen to take from us the free school, and demoralize the Christian home. Unless we oppose every influence that would heathenize us, we shall be false to our Fathers and our God.

And now passing back beyond the coming of Puritan influences to Illinois, we will notice briefly the work of missionaries of the Roman Catholic faith. With the French there came to Illinois Jesuit and Recollect priests, whose names are familiar to all who have read the history of our State. They moved along together, the explorer and voyager giving protection to the missionary, and the latter in return aiding them to conciliate and make friends with the natives. Of the missionaries connected with Illinois, Fathers Marquette, Allouez, Gravier, Rasle, Marest were Jesuits; Fathers Membre, Douay and Hennepin belonged to the Recollects. These two sects were at war with each other, which very much hindered the spread of catholicism. To the Recollect Monks of St. Francis was first assigned the care of the missions, but





subsequently Cardinal Richelieu superseded this order and confided the spiritual welfare of the people to the priests of the Society of Jesus, the disciples of Loyola. The former felt very keenly their exclusion from the field and left no means untried to regain their supremacy.

Father Marquette was a native of Laon, France, born in 1637. He was the first in the company of Joliet, to make a journey down the Mississippi, coming first in contact with the Indians, a tribe named the "Illini;" meaning the "Men." This was in 1673. Down the Mississippi these intrepid men went in their frail canoe as far as the mouth of the Arkansas river; and then after four weeks on the unknown river, forced their way against the swift current, toiling by day under a July sun and sleeping by night amid mosquitoes and the deadly vapors of stagnant marshes, on and up until several weeks of hard labor brought them to the mouth of the Illinois; here they were informed by the Indians that this stream furnished a near route back to Wisconsin. Acting upon this information, they entered the river. Their journals tell in picturesque language the beauty of the country they passed through. They tell of prairies spread out before them beyond the reach of vision, covered with tall grass and undulating like the waves of a sea. The surface was studded with clumps of timber. Flowers, surpassing in the delicacy of their tints the pampered products of civilization, were profusely sprinkled over the grassy landscape. Immense herds of buffalo and deer grazed on their rich pastures; the river, as now, swarmed with fish, great quantities of wild fruit grew in the forest and prairies and so numerous were the birds and waterfowl that the heavens were frequently obscured by their flight. These explorers spoke of the land as a terrestrial paradise, in which earth, air and water, unbidden by labor, contributed the most copious supplies.

Passing far up the river, they stopped at a town of the Illinois, called Kaskaskia, whose name afterwards trans-



ferred to a different locality, has become famous in the history of the country. They proceeded further to Lake Michigan by way of the rivers Illinois, Desplaines and Chicago. Following the western shore of the lake, they entered Green Bay the latter part of September, having been absent about four months and traveled a distance of 2,500 miles.

Joliet hastened on to Quebec to report his discoveries, while Marquette remained to repair his shattered health, and then the following year established a mission on the plain between the Illinois river and the site of the present town of Utica. Here he preached to some 500 chiefs and a great concourse of warriors, women and children. He spoke to them with great earnestness on the duties of Christianity and the necessity of making their conduct conform to its teachings; the audience was deeply impressed with the sermon, and eagerly besought him to remain with them, a request which his fast wearing strength rendered it impossible to grant.

On his return home he passed to his reward. His companions buried his body on the shore of Lake Michigan. Three years afterward, a party of Ottawas, opened the grave and carried the bones to St. Ignace across from Mackinaw, where they lie buried under the floor of a rude chapel. The piety, energy and self-denial of this noble man gives him a high place in the affections of religious people. He is a type of a multitude of Roman Catholic missionaries the world over, who have shown great zeal and heroism in the propagation of their faith. Whatever may be said in regard to their methods, it must be admitted that the world today is better because of their existence and work.

More than 100 years before we have any account of any protestant minister within the bounds of the territory of Illinois, Marquette, LaSalle, Joliet and Hennepin traversed the long distance from the Atlantic communities through the unbroken wilderness to minister to the





scattered French settlements and Indians. As early as 1700 they had established missions at Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Peoria, and other points on the Mississippi.

Father Claude Jean Allouez arrived at the Kaskaskia village of the Illinois on April 27, 1677. Here he erected a cross twenty-five feet high, and preached to eight tribes there congregated. He made frequent visits to this mission until 1687, when he returned to Wisconsin, dying in 1690. The Peoria station was established by Father Gravier.

With the coming of English control the French priests gradually withdrew from Illinois territory and few results of their labors remained. But for the victory of Wolfe on the heights of Quebec in 1759, our country would have been French Catholic instead of English Protestant. The question of the dominant religion of Illinois and the whole of America was settled of God and English bullets in this famous battle. The rule of Louis, the Fourteenth, meant the rule of despotism. The English gave us the Puritan foundation in Illinois upon which is built our cherished institutions.

The first Protestant minister to enter Illinois was James Smith, a Baptist. He came from Kentucky in 1787 and in fellowship with David Badgely and Joseph Chance, Baptist ministers, formed the first Protestant church at New Design; the first association of *five* churches, four ministers, with 111 members, was formed in 1807. A division growing out of the slavery question, occurred in these churches in 1809. Other causes of difference resulted in the formation of three parties of Baptists, which existed for ten years and two of them much longer. The most numerous branch of the church, is denominated the Regular or Missionary Baptists. Of this church John M. Peck was the great missionary and organizer in Illinois from 1822 until his death in March, 1858. Worthy successors in central Illinois were Justus



Bulkley, D. Read, Washington Leverett, Alvin Bailey, James Lemen and B. B. Hamilton.

The first Presbyterian minister who visited the Illinois country was John Evans Finley. He landed in Kaskaskia in 1797. The next ministers of that faith to come were Samuel T. Mills and Daniel Smith, who had been sent from the Massachusetts Missionary Society to the west. They came in 1814, but no church was formed until 1816, when James McGready of Kentucky came into White county and formed a church at Sharon. The members were mostly from Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky, whose families were of Scotch-Irish extraction. The second church was organized in Illinois at Shoal Creek, Bond county in 1819; and the third at Edwardsville the same year. Long pastorates among this people seem to be the rule. Albert Hale was pastor at Springfield twenty-seven years. Livingston M. Glover at Jacksonville thirty-two years; while that of Robert W. Patterson was maintained in Chicago, that city of marvelous changes, for thirty years. The controversy between the old and new school branches culminated in a division into two separate organizations in 1837, but happily at Pittsburg in May, 1870, measures were adopted which resulted in unity.

The first Methodist minister who visited the State was Joseph Lillard, a local preacher of Kentucky, who gathered a few scattered Methodists into a class and appointed Capt. Joseph Ogle as their leader. This was in 1793. Four or five years later John Clark visited the settlements of Illinois. He was a Scotchman. In the same year that Mr. Clark came, Hosea Rigg, the first resident local preacher, settled in the American Bottom in St. Clair county. In 1807 Jesse Walker held the first camp meeting ever held in the State, about three miles south of Edwardsville. The meeting was a powerful one, and many present were affected with that strange movement, "the jerks." Among the powerful preachers of Method-





ism in Illinois was Peter Cartwright. His career is without parallel among his people. He was a man of great physical power, great energy, superior mental force and remarkable organizing and executive ability. Much of his life, after coming from Kentucky, was spent at Pleasant Plains, in Sangamon county. He was a fighter for what he believed to be the truth. He was a type of many of that day, who contended earnestly for the faith. Announcing the text, "they went everywhere preaching the word." Their preaching was largely doctrinal, polemical and hortatory. They had deep and clear convictions concerning the great truths they proclaimed.

Among the early preachers were some noted for various eccentricities. William Stribling was an illustration of this. He was a very able and eloquent preacher. His command of language was most extraordinary. The following specimens will show his love of the larger and more profound words of the dictionary. Being violently opposed to the use of tobacco, he administered the following reproof to an old slave of the weed: "Venerable sir, the deleterious effluvia emanating from your tobacconistic reservoir so overshadows our ocular optics and so obfuscates our sensorium, that our respirable apparatus must shortly be obtunded, unless, through your abundant suavity and pre-eminent politeness, you will disembogue that illuministic tube from the stimulating and sternutatory ingredient, which replenishes the rotundity of the vastness of its concavity." The proverb, "You can't make a money purse out of a sow's ear," he refined in this manner: "At the present era of the world it has been found impracticable to fabricate a sufficiently convenient pecuniary receptacle from the auricular organ of the genus suo."

The first Congregational church was organized at Mendon, Adams county, in 1833, followed by others the same year at Naperville, Jacksonville and Quincy. Among the pioneer preachers were Jabez Porter, also a



teacher in Quincy, Asa Turner, Julian M. Sturtevant, Truman N. Post, Edward Beecher and Horatio Foot. The leading spirits in the organization of Illinois and Knox colleges were Congregationalists.

The pioneer Episcopal leader was Philander Chase, coming in 1833. In 1834, three churches were organized. At Jacksonville, Rushville and Galena.

The pioneers in the movement for the restoration of Apostolic Christianity were on the ground early. They came from Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. They were of rugged type and believing in Christian education. Early in the century colleges were established at Eureka, Abingdon and Jacksonville. The Bible was the text book in religious training. Various parts of the State today religiously bear the mark of the early religious impressions. Draw a line east from Rock Island to Joliet. North of that line in Illinois the Congregationalists and Presbyterians are numerous, while south of that line the Disciples of Christ have the larger number of their seven hundred churches in Illinois. The religious divisions of the State today are determined by the religious opinions of the early comers. Many churches known as simply "Christian" or "Churches of Christ" were organized before 1830. They were called in derision "Campbellites" by the outside world and often by their religious neighbors. They contended for the simple name "Christian," and said that they were "Christians only" and not the "only Christians." Feeble was the beginning of this now powerful and influential body of Christians. They now number 116,954 in Illinois, with 746 churches, and are at the forefront of every movement for good. Sometime in the early twenties the church now known as the Christian church at Cantrall, Sangamon county, was organized as a Baptist church by Stephen England and later on joined in with the Disciples. This is believed to be one of our oldest congregations. In 1828, a group was organized at Hittle's Grove, under the leadership of





Wm. Miller. The church at Armington grew out of this movement. There is still a congregation at Little Grove, near Paris, Edgar county, which was established in 1826. On Sept. 27, 1824, Ebenezer Rhodes effected an organization at Blooming Grove, south of the present city of Bloomington.

The church at Jacksonville was organized in Oct. 1832. Among the leaders are the names of Barton W. Stone, Josephus Hewett, Wm. Happy, Jonathan Atkinson, the first president of Berea college, A. J. Kane, John Eads, Matthew Elder, Harrison W. Osborne, D. Pat Henderson and Enos Campbell. Here in 1832 took place the union of the early church and a similar religious organization, known as Stoneites.

The church at Springfield was constituted in 1833. Josephus Hewitt, Alexander Graham, Jerry P. Lancaster, Wm. Brown, and A. J. Kane are familiar names with the older members of this congregation. The Sangamon Journal published at Springfield, Ill., in its issue of March 16, 1833, made this announcement: "Rev. Josephus Hewitt, of Jacksonville, will preach in the court house in this town today and tomorrow. Services to commence at 11 A. M." How he had the courage to announce himself as "Rev." I am not quite able to understand. However, no damage seems to be done as I find no record of reproving editorials or heresy trial. Chas. P. Kane describes Mr. Hewitt in the following language: "Mr. Hewitt was a remarkable man. He had qualities that would have distinguished him in any society, in any age. Large of stature, dignified of mien, he at once impressed individual or assemblage. As a speaker he was effective and forcible; I have heard many persons describe him as a great preacher." Thus is described for us a type of that heroic body of men who stood for "the faith once for all delivered to the Saints," often misunderstood and the very nature of their message calling out bitter opposition, yet in the love of the truth they crossed these prairies,





proclaiming the watchword, "Where the bible speaks, we speak; where the bible is silent, we are silent." All honors to them. We have entered into the enjoyment of the fruit of their labors.

Julian M. Sturtevant records in his Autobiography an incident illustrative of the opposition to the Disciples in an early day: "From a very early period in the history of Jacksonville the people known as "Disciples," the followers of Alexander Campbell of Bethany, Virginia, were very active. They were then regarded with much distrust by other denominations, and in fact were scarcely considered an evangelical body. Having occasion to spend a night a few miles from Jacksonville, at a house of entertainment kept by a prominent member of this body, I was invited by him to preach on some Sabbath before long, in the church near his house. As it was my practice to embrace every opportunity to preach the gospel I accepted the invitation, leaving it to him to fix the day. After some delay the appointment was announced. On reaching the place on the appointed day I found a large meeting of the Disciples in progress and several of their prominent preachers in attendance. The great congregation gave close attention to my discourse. It would appear that my utterances on that occasion were orthodox, since Dr. Beecher after listening to the same sermon, delivered two or three years later in his church in Cincinnati, cheered me at its close by exclaiming in his characteristic manner, "That's right!"

When I promised to preach for the Disciples it did not occur to me that the question of joining with them in the communion service was also involved. But since it is the invariable custom of that denomination to follow the Sabbath morning discourse with the observance of the Supper, I perceived the moment I entered the church that I must face that question. There was not much time to think. Nor did I see much reason to hesitate. These people had been listening with profound and reverential





attention to what I believed to be the gospel. I saw no reason to doubt that they received it intelligently and sincerely, and I could not refuse to join with them in breaking bread in the name of the Lord. And I am bound to say that I have seldom witnessed a more reverent and devout observance of that rite. At the close of the service strong men with whom I was acquainted in business relations but whom I had never before met in Christian worship, sang "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me," with tears rolling down their cheeks. I could say with Peter, "I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." God taught me that day to beware how I called any body of professed Christians "common or unclean."

The report of my doings on that Sabbath startled the community, the story could not have been circulated with greater rapidity or repeated with more emphasis had I committed an infamous crime. A few defended my action, but most of my good neighbors were shocked."

In 1860 this large hearted man wrote of the Disciples in Jacksonville: "It is my belief that no portion of the religious community around us has grown in grace more rapidly than that denomination. If my efforts have in any degree contributed to that end I am thankful. I ascribe their remarkable progress to the fact that from the beginning they have constantly held that, "The Word of God only is the rule of our faith."

In Danville and vicinity the work began in 1835. In that year Dr. W. Walters, a physician, settled in Danville. The nearest body of the Disciples was eighteen miles away. He went there to worship regularly until the church was constituted in the city of Danville. Time would fail me to tell the whole story of this powerful people in Illinois. Their early labors were characterized with heroism, sacrifice and a devotion to the truth, which won the admiration of many. The Illinois Christian Missionary Society, constituted in 1850 has organized over 300 churches in the State. Among them the churches at



Quincy, Peoria, Gibson City and Champaign. Among the many who served as president of the society, I find the the honored names of Happy, Jones. Enos Campbell, Allen, Hobbs, Gilbert, Hardin and many others, some of whom are still living. My own recollection calls out the names of N. S. Haynes and J. Fred Jones, who have accomplished mighty things as the secretaries of the society during late years. Every strong church in Illinois should be linked in the support of some needy field in our own State.

And now, may a double portion of the spirit of our fathers rest upon the sons of the present. We have mighty problems in Illinois, which can only be solved by the principles of the gospel. This is no time for rest, compromise or soft words. Shall Illinois be Christian? We must help in the solution of that question. The best that is in us must be used without stint for the King. We need even yet the spirit of the mighty Luther. The appearance of Luther before the Emperor of Germany at the Diet of Worms is a picture to be burned upon the soul of every preacher in Illinois. The evening has come. The torches have been lighted and cast a flickering glare over the faces of the earnest men who have come together to hear this monk from Wittenberg. As Luther goes through the door, the greatest general of Germany taps him on the shoulder and says: "My poor monk, my poor monk, you are on the way to make such a stand as I have never made in my toughest battle." And what the general said was true. A great company of electors and princes are there and on the table the books Luther has written. As a student he has learned that church councils can make mistakes. He has said so openly. The question now is—will he recant? The emperor tells him haughtily that he is not there to question matters which have been settled in church councils long ago, and that what he wants is a plain answer without horns, whether he will retract what he has said contradicting the de-





cisions of the Council of Constance. Luther rises to reply and this is what he says: "Since your Imperial Majesty requires a plain answer, I will give one without horns and hoofs. It is this, that I must be convinced either by the testimony of Scripture or by clear argument. I can not trust the pope or councils by themselves, for both have erred. I can not, I will not retract." A profound silence falls upon them all. And then the Augustinian Monk continues: "I can do nothing else. Here I stand. So help me God. Amen." And as Luther passed out the door some Spaniards who were present hissed him. Spain was at that time the leading Nation in the world, and God heard those hisses, and he laid his hand on Spain and led her slowly to the rear of the procession of European Nations, and God laid hold of Germany, then one of the most belated nations, and told her to go higher, and she today stands in the forefront of all the nations of Europe, because she followed Luther.

Our blessings are many! Our perils are mighty! Mammonism, the liquor traffic, the problem of the city, corrupt rulers, rear their mighty heads to devour all who oppose. Men are needed now with the spirit of Luther, yea, with the courage of the men of the early days in Illinois—"to stand for the faith once for all delivered to the saints," and also with open minds and the courage to receive all new and tested truth which God shall break out of his World and Word.

"He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call  
retreat,  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His Judgment  
seat.

Be swift my soul to answer Him; be jubilant my feet,  
Our God is marching on!"



## LINCOLN'S FIRST SUPREME COURT CASE.

By Richard V. Carpenter, Belvidere, Illinois.

In running over the early reports of our Illinois Supreme Court the writer was somewhat surprised and pleased to learn that the first case in which Abraham Lincoln appeared before that Court was an appeal from our "Little Boone." A short statement of the facts of that case may be of some interest, not only because it is so suggestive of early days in Northern Illinois, but more so because it was the first employment of our greatest American in the court in which he afterward became so successful and constant a practitioner. The case is that of Scammon vs. Cline, found in 2 Scammon, page 456. The writer will attempt to fill out the formal legal statements there given with a short description of some of the personalities involved.

Boone county received its first settlement in 1835 and '36, most of the new-comers being from New York and New England. Among them was Cornelius Cline, the defendant in error in this case. Mr. Cline came from New York in June, 1835, being one of the first settlers of the county and of the first five or six in Belvidere. He located west of what is now Belvidere, near the Kishwaukee river.

The first easterly and westerly street north of the Kishwaukee river in Belvidere was known in the early days as Mechanic street for some blocks on each side of the State road, and as it went further west was called Cline's Ford Road. It is now West Lincoln avenue. People sometimes think that when lawyers are called in to help a man they come out with most of the property.





In this case so honest a man as Lincoln even took the *street name* away from his client.

When the writer found that this was a Boone county case a search among the top row of the early court files in the Circuit Clerk's office revealed the original papers—now yellow with age—which are present at this writing. The first record book of the Circuit Court was also gone through and the various orders found.

The small slip of paper that the trouble was all about is found in the files and reads as follows:

“\$52.50

One year after date I promise to pay D. H. Whitney or bearer fifty-two dollars with use. Value received in goods, &c.

Belvidere, Nov. 19, A. D. 1836.

Cornelius Cline.”

Dr. Daniel Hilton Whitney, to whom the note was made, assigned it to Jonathan Young Scammon of Chicago. Mr. Scammon was born in Maine in 1812 and came to Chicago in 1835. He assisted Col. Richard J. Hamilton (who held many of the offices at that date in Cook county), and afterwards became a lawyer, entering into partnership with Norman B. Judd about 1830 until about 1847. In 1829 he was appointed reporter of the Supreme Court, which position he held at the time of this suit. He was afterwards associated with William B. Ogden in building the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad. It is a matter of considerable interest, which has never been gone into in detail, to trace the connection of the growing metropolis, Chicago, with all the counties situated about it. I think a careful study would show many instances where the energetic Chicago citizens, from their offices by the lake, had considerable to do in the pioneer days, with shaping the destinies of the regions further inland, just as the actual welfare of many regions far distant is now dependent on plans conceived and



worked out in that great nerve center. For one small instance, William B. Ogden, a prominent citizen and one time mayor of Chicago, bought and subdivided a tract of land near the Kishwaukee river in Belvidere and it is still called "Ogden's Addition" and has a street named after him. It is stated in Thurston's reminiscences of Rockford that that thriving city, which was then a mere mill-site on the Rock river, was named at a suggestion of Dr. Goodhue, at a meeting of six people, of whom only two were from Rockford, held in the Doctor's office in Chicago.

To resume our story of the law suit. Mr. Scammon brought suit on the note before Alexander Neely, then a Justice of the Peace and afterward a prominent banker, and the cause was removed to Hiram Waterman, another Justice, and judgment given in favor of Mr. Cline, February 21, 1839. The records do not show why the note was not thought binding, but it can readily be surmised that no Boone county or other pioneer jury was likely to give a judgment in favor of a Chicago financier, on their own ground, if they could help it. Mr. Scammon appealed the case to the Boone County Circuit Court. During the earliest part of Boone county's history it was attached to Jo Daviess county for judicial purposes and did not have a Circuit Court of its own, held in the county. But by this time the legislature had recognized the need of the growing settlement and on March 2, 1839 passed a law for the holding of Circuit Court in Boone county. It so happened however, that Mr. Scammon filed his appeal bond in this case on March 1, the day before this law went into effect. The original bond is on file and it is somewhat curious to note the number of capacities which each prominent man had to fulfil in those days in the fact that S. S. Whitman, Clerk of the Court, with whom the bond was filed, was the surety, and that Mr. Scammon's name was signed by Alexander Neely as his agent, Mr. Neely being the justice before whom the case





was started. At a guess one might imagine that Mr. Scammon was not in Belvidere when the appeal was perfected and that Mr. Whitman was eager to get the new court, of which he was clerk, into action and celebrate the granting of a separate tribunal to the growing settlement. The court was held in the "Baptist House of Worship," on the north side in Belvidere. The original house is still standing, although it has been removed to some distance from its former location. Judge Dan Stone of Jo Daviess presided and Seth S. Whitman was clerk.

Judge Stone was a native of Vermont and practiced law in Springfield, being one of the celebrated "Long Nine" from Sangamon county, and joined Lincoln in his protest against the pro-slavery resolutions adopted by the House. In 1837 he became a Circuit Court judge and was assigned to the northwestern part of the State, with headquarters at Galena.

Mr. Whitman was a man of much prominence in the early days of Belvidere, a Baptist minister and also served as the first postmaster and circuit clerk. Dr. Frank S. Whitman, who is of the same family, still maintains its prominence in Belvidere. The case was called at the term beginning the fourth Monday in April 1839, and continued because the summons had not been served ten days before the sitting of the court. The first case started at this first term of the Boone county Circuit Court was that of Ira Gould vs. Thomas O. Davis. It was settled out of court and dismissed. Mr. Davis at one time lived in Chicago and published the "American," but at this time he was one of the very few settlers on the south side of the river in Belvidere.

When the Scammon-Cline case came up at the next term in April, 1840, the appeal was dismissed for the reason that the suit was started before the court was supposed to be in existence, or in the words of the motion by defendant's attorney, "because the said appeal was taken to the Circuit Court of Boone county, before any court





was appointed in said county and whilst Boone was attached to Jo Daviess county for judicial purposes." At this time Norman B. Judd, a prominent Chicago citizen, was the lawyer for Mr. Scammon, being his legal associate. Mr. Judd took an appeal of the case to the Supreme Court and signed the appeal bond. The attorney for Mr. Cline was James L. Loop, one of the earliest lawyers and a man of ability, who came to Belvidere in 1838 from New York state. He afterward practiced law in partnership with his brother-in-law, General Stephen A. Hurlbut, who was a gallant Union general and afterwards minister to Peru. Mr. Loop was prosecuting attorney for northern Illinois from 1843 to 1845. In 1852 he moved to Rockford and practiced law in partnership with William Lathrop, also a man of prominence. In 1856 he was elected mayor of Rockford. He died in that city in 1865 and is buried in Belvidere. Mr. Loop's first public position in Boone county was that of clerk of the County Commissioners' Court and his entrance upon the office was marked with what seems now a rather comical little proceeding. Dr. Daniel Hilton Whitney (to whom this Cline note was first given) had been clerk of the court, but evidently the political complexion or personal preference of the commissioners had changed and they desired the position for some one else. They therefore discovered that the doctor had his office more than a quarter of a mile from the court house, which was against the law, and removed him. Apparently he did not care very much, as the position was but a side issue to his medical practice, but his young protege and deputy, Joseph Briggs, was very much put out and refused to give up the books and papers. Thereupon the county commissioners court entered some orders, but young Mr. Briggs had in the meantime betaken himself somewhere else in town with the records and the sheriff was sent to gather him in and the few little books and papers that composed the county's property. When the record of the





court proceedings was returned the new clerk was directed to scratch out various remarks Mr. Briggs had entered as to the summary proceedings and the entries and the erasures are still apparent in the faded old book today. Afterward the fine which the three county commissioners had imposed on the young man was cut in half and paid and the ruffled feelings of all were apparently soothed. Dr. Whitney and Mr. Loop were both men of much ability and prominence in the early days. Mr. Loop was an uncle of Major Charles B. Loop, a gallant soldier and well known in Illinois politics, and the family still occupies a prominent position in Belvidere.

Lincoln was then a young lawyer who had been admitted but a few years and was practicing in partnership with Stuart in Springfield. Although he had attained some prominence in politics and on the circuit, his talents had not yet been availed of in the highest court by anyone. Mr. Loop apparently recognized his ability and retained him in this suit. The lawyers on the other side were Mr. Scammon and Giles Spring. Mr. Spring was born in Massachusetts in 1807 and came to Chicago in 1833, having offices near the corner of Franklin and south Water streets. Afterwards he was city attorney and judge of the Cook county Court of Common Pleas. He died in 1851. Linder describes him as of limited education but a sort of a natural born lawyer, possessing intuitive insight into its principles and maxims; having no superior at the Chicago bar in the power of analysis; of child like simplicity of manners and as tender hearted as a woman; his only fault being an occasional indulgence in drink. There is a tradition that in the oral argument of this case before the Supreme Court Lincoln announced that all the cases he had been able to find were against his contention, so that he would merely read the decisions he had collected and submit the matter to the court. One author, however, who mentions this fact, states rightfully



that this would be a rather unusual way for a lawyer to serve his client.

It will be readily seen that this is a case on which there can be few precedents, as it would only be likely to happen once in any court, and even then the law would be modified by the statutes and other circumstances of the particular case, so it is probable that Lincoln announced that he could not find any precedents to cite to the court but would argue from the facts of the matter and what he thought should be the law. It is not likely that the other side had very many precedents either.

The court entered its opinion by Chief Justice Wilson to the effect that the appeal was improperly dismissed. That the Circuit Court must have been in existence because Mr. Whitman had been appointed clerk by Judge Stone under the old law and if there was a clerk to lawfully file papers, there was a court. The judgment was therefore reversed and the cause remanded. The case came up again April 27, 1841, and the jury again was loyal to home talent as against an outsider, and found for the defendant. So that although Lincoln lost his first Supreme Court case his client won in the end. So far, however, as the Boone county papers show, Lincoln had no connection with the case in the county but simply at Springfield. The whole matter involved but a very small amount, but it may be interesting to some because it refers to the springtime of the life of both the northern part of the State and the greatest American statesman.





## THE COLD TUESDAY.

J. O. Cunningham, of Urbana, Ill.

Many of the older of the early settlers will remember the stories told by those here as early as the year 1836, of the cold Tuesday of that year. It is said to have happened on the 16th day of December, 1836. Hardly anyone remains among us who has personal recollections, so our information must be second-hand.

Rev. Enoch Kingsbury, whom some will remember as a long-time pastor of the Presbyterian church of Danville, in December, 1857, twenty-one years after the happening of the event, wrote an account of the events of the day, which was published in the Danville Independent. This best tells the story:

"The weather on Monday was quite warm, softening the heavy snow. On Tuesday it began to rain before day and continued until four in the afternoon, at which time the ground was covered with water and melting snow. All the small streams were very full and large ones rapidly rising. At this crisis there arose a large and tumultuous looking cloud in the west, with a rumbling noise. On its approach everything congealed. In less than five minutes it changed from a warm atmosphere to one of intense cold, and flowing water to ice."

"One says he started his horse to a gallop in the mud and water and, on going a quarter of a mile, he was bounding over ice and frozen ground. Another, that in an hour after the change he passed over a stream of two feet deep on ice, which actually froze solid to the bottom and remained so until spring. The North Fork, where it was rapid and so full as to overflow its bottoms, froze



over so solid that night that horses crossed next morning, and it was thus with all of the streams."

"Mr. Alvin Gilbert, with his men, was crossing the prairie from Bicknell's to Sugar Creek, with a large drove of hogs. Before the cloud came over them the hogs and horses showed the greatest alarm and apprehensions of danger. And when it actually came upon them, the hogs, refusing to go any farther, began to pile themselves in one vast heap as their best defense on an open prairie. During the night half a dozen of them perished, and those on the outside were so frozen down that they had to be cut loose. About twelve others died on their way to Chicago, in consequence of being badly frozen, while many others lost large pieces of their flesh. Mr. Gilbert and his young men rode five or six miles distant, all of them having fingers, toes or ears frozen, and the harness so frozen that it could not be unhitched from the wagon, and scarcely from the horses."

"Two men riding across the same prairie, a little farther west, came to a stream so wide and deep that they could not cross it. The dreary night came on, and after exercising in vain to keep from freezing, they killed one horse, rolled his back to the wind, took out his entrails and thrust in their hands and feet, while they lay upon them. And so they would have used the other horse, but for the loss of their knife. Mr. Frame, the younger and more thinly clad, gradually froze and died in great agony at daybreak. The other, Mr. Hildreth, at sunrise, mounted the remaining horse and rode over the ice five miles to a house, but so badly frozen that about half of each hand and foot came off."

"How general or extensive the change was is not known; but the Illinois River, as two men in a boat were crossing it, froze in, and they exercised to save their lives until the ice would bear them up. The dog that accompanied them was frozen to death."





"On the east side of Indiana one man had fifty head of hogs frozen to death. Many similar facts might be narrated, but the above are sufficient to show that the change was great, sudden and general."

A paper in the western part of the state published the following:

"The sudden freeze of 1836 was not perceptibly felt east of Cincinnati, and in Illinois and Indiana its width extended from Ottawa south as far as Terre Haute. Within that limit its effects were fearful. It came with a strong wind, accompanied with a heavy black cloud, and a roaring noise, not unlike distant deep thunder. Its velocity was about twenty-five miles an hour. The most remarkable phenomenon was the intensity of the cold. Nothing like it has ever been known since. The wind in its fury and power blew the water into little sharply defined waves, which froze as they stood, leaving the ponds, creeks and rivers, crusted with a heavy coat of ice. The snow, slush and mud were suddenly congealed into a mass strong enough to sustain the weight of a team and wagon. Some of the incidents related in the experience of people exposed to the storm are almost incredible but well attested."

"The storm passed over Burlington about ten o'clock in the forenoon, December 16, 1836. We have no local record concerning the effect there, but across the river the people had some strange experiences. The morning was warm and misty. The snow had melted to a thick watery slush, and the gutters were full of water. Men were about their daily avocations without their coats. Suddenly the cloud appeared. Its loud and deep notes of warning gave them hardly time to grasp their coats and get to a place of safety. Cattle, hogs and fowls were frozen in their tracks, unable to extricate themselves. Many died before help could come. Many persons were frozen so severely that death ensued in a few days, and others were crippled for life. The effect was terrible, and



is best, illustrated, perhaps, out of the many instances on record, by the experience of a gentleman living in Springfield, who was out with a drove of hogs when the storm came suddenly upon them. They abandoned the hogs and drove rapidly to a house a mile or two away. When they arrived there some had their hands frozen and could do nothing for the teams. The next day they started out to find their hogs. Coming to where they had left them, they found a pyramid of porkers. The hogs huddled together when the storm struck them, those on the inside smothering, those on the outside freezing."

"As the wave passed over McLean County, it encountered a party of men working in the field, one of whom had with him a heavy overcoat. It had become rather wet with the mist, and as the wave came over the party, its owner hastily proceeded to put it on. As he raised it over his head for that purpose the cold wave swept by, blowing the coat several feet from where he stood. It happened to light 'head up and tail down,' as he expressed it, where it stood, arms extended, frozen stiff as a board. 'Maybe you think that's a pretty tall story,' remarked he to a crowd of companions, to whom he was relating the occurrence. 'Pretty stiff, I should think,' remarked a listener. 'Stiff! I should say it was stiff, and if you had been there and seen it, you would believe it,' answered the first one, not noticing the import of the remark."

"Other interesting incidents are given concerning the sudden freeze of 1836, to which, no doubt, some of our older readers could add some valuable and entertaining contributions. The question naturally arises, 'Is the Mississippi Valley liable to any more sudden eruptions of the ice king like the unheralded and unwelcome invasion of 1836?'





## THE REV. SIMON PETER AND THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

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RECORDS OF THE SALT CREEK CIRCUIT OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

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Rev. W. N. McElroy, D. D.

Mr. Milo Custer, of Bloomington, Illinois, in giving a copy of the above named records to the Historical Society Quarterly, supposes that the name Simon Peter, signed to the records, after 1832, was facetiously meant for Peter Cartwright. That supposition is erroneous. Mr. Capps, of Greenfield is right. The Rev. Simon Peter was not only a veritable, but also a prominent Methodist Episcopal minister; though unfortunate in his career. He was a resident of Illinois for almost fifty years, as an itinerant, and local preacher.

He was born in Kentucky in 1792 and professed conversion, and joined the Methodist Episcopal church at nineteen years of age. He was soon afterward licensed to preach, and admitted into the Ohio conference in which he traveled almost a score of years, mostly in Kentucky, attaining to prominence, as a successful preacher. He came to Illinois about 1830 and located, purchasing land and settling on Scarrett's Prairie in Jersey county with his family at that time.

In 1832 he was re-admitted into the Illinois conference, and as an evidence of his high standing as a minister, he was assigned to the Presiding Eldership of the Sangamon district, which included a number of other circuits besides Salt Creek. He there became the successor of Peter Cartwright, whose term on the circuit had expired. He served the Sangamon District acceptably for



four years, and at the expiration of his term in 1836, was assigned to the presiding eldership of the Lebanon District. He remained on it, however, but one year. For these five years, his career had been a brilliant one, but in 1837 at the session of the conference of that year in Jacksonville his sun set behind a cloud, from which it never entirely arose. He was expelled from the church and departed from the ministry upon charges of an alleged offense said to have been committed while the conference was in session.

The action upon the part of the conference was summary. Many have since thought it was hasty, inconsiderate and unjust, and thoughtlessly done under great excitement. Many also afterward believed that at most the offense was an unintentional indiscretion on his part, or a misunderstanding on the part of the person charging the offense. His life before that had always been blameless, and was blameless afterward. But innocent or guilty, he was, as he said himself, "a ruined man," and passed through more than two score years with the shreds of the cloud hanging over him, though highly respected.

At the close of the conference, he retired to his farm in Jersey county, where after the lapse of some time he joined the church again and was relicensed as a local preacher, and served the church in that capacity for more than forty years, respected by all who knew him. He lived happily with his wife in all fifty-three years, raised a large family of children who became respected and esteemed citizens, and members of the church.

He died at Brighton, Illinois, in 1877, aged 85 years. The Rev. Simon Peter was no myth, or joke of Peter Cartwright.

So much for the Rev. Simon Peter. A reference to some other persons, whose names appear in those records of the Salt Creek circuit may be interesting to the reader. The Rev. William L. Deneen, whose name appears as the





circuit preacher in 1829 and 1830, was the grandfather of the Hon. Charles S. Deneen, the present Governor of the State of Illinois.

Mr. Deneen was a prominent pioneer preacher in Illinois, serving the church for many long years as pastor and presiding elder. He was born in Pennsylvania and entered the Illinois conference in 1828. Salt Creek was his second charge. It was almost virgin soil. It was sparsely settled and covered a large territory and Mr. Deneen made it still larger by organizing new societies where none had been before. Among these new societies was one at Stevens Creek, near Decatur, which was the beginning of the present Methodist Episcopal churches in Decatur. It was at the home of David Owen and consisted of Buel, Luther, and Jonas Stevens, David Owen, John Frazee, and their wives. Shortly afterward, John, Isaac and Jonathan Miller, and their families, united with the society. The next year Alonzo and Margaret Lapham and Dr. William and Margaret Cressey were added. The year following the society was moved into Decatur.

Mr. Deneen organized a society at Blue Mound also in Macon county. Its meeting place was the house of Benjamin Wilson, and it consisted of Benjamin and Jane Wilson, Jemima, Jeremiah R., Nancy, Elizabeth, Anna and Rachael Hill, Hannah Blankenship, Elenor Warriek, and Temperance Stanfield. He also organized a society at Marion, in DeWitt county and another at Mt. Pleasant, now Farmer City. He likewise organized a society at the home of Judge Lowry, near the present town of Kenney. The members were William Lowry and wife, two sons, Reuben and Frank, and three daughters, Cecillia, Nancy and Elizabeth, Thomas Alsop and wife, the widow Alsop and daughter, James Kenney, wife and son, and Daniel Newcomb and wife, his father and sisters, Elizabeth and Hannah. These were the first societies organized in DeWitt and Macon counties.



Some idea of the size of the circuit may be formed when we think of the preaching places, located at Athens, in Menard county; Farmer City, in DeWitt county; Decatur and Blue Mound, in Macon county; David Redall's, southeast of Springfield; James Stringfield's, eight miles southeast of Bloomington, and all up and down Salt Creek. It covered Menard, Macon, Logan, DeWitt, and parts of Sangamon and McLean counties, and all the inhabited intervening territory.

Mr. Deneen was three times pastor at Lebanon, and several other important charges. In life pure, in character stainless, in faith unfeigned, he met death without fear and died in holy triumph in 1879.

Another name mentioned in these records as a local preacher, John Shepherd, afterward became an itinerant, as did his son Moses Shepherd, who was a prominent minister in the Southern Illinois Conference. The Rev. John Shepherd joined the Illinois Conference in 1836, a later period than that which the Salt Creek records cover, and had a long and successful ministry. He has a daughter, Mrs. Chadwell, residing in Corinth, Illinois, who, in a letter to the writer, describes some of the hardships which her father and his family endured. I give a part of the letter, as it shows what those who laid the foundations in Illinois passed through. She says: "My father joined the conference in 1836 and was assigned to a four weeks' circuit. He moved from Athens to Waynesville in wagons. When we got there there was no church and no parsonage and we were put in a log house without loft or ceiling; just open up to the roof and only one room. The family were father, mother, Moses, Sophronia and myself. Father was gone most of the time. One morning mother called Moses to get up and make the fire. She had curtains around her bed. He had put his clothes on a chair close to his bed. He threw the cover off his head and the snow poured in on his body. He shook his clothes, dressed, and tried, again





and again to start a fire. It snowed so hard it put it out. We all dressed in the snow which was all over the floor. My brother took my sister in his arms and we all wended our way through the snow knee deep to brother Sampson's (that was the preaching place). For two days it snowed. On the third morning we went into the house with shovels, spades and brooms, and with two others cleared it out, and then built a fire to dry it out. Then mother was brought home. She took a carpet and spread it over the joists, and fastened it there just in front of the fire place. She then hung bed clothes across the room. Inside of that small place we all slept, cooked, studied and were happy."

Another name mentioned, that of William Royal, is worthy of mention. He became one of the most noted of pioneer preachers. He entered the itinerancy in 1830. He pioneered more territory than any other preacher, save perhaps Jesse Walker, James McKean and Stephen R. Beggs, and organized more societies than either of them. He fell into the Rock River Conference upon its organization in 1840. He removed to Oregon in 1865. Asahel E. Phelps, who was the pastor named after the circuit became the Athens circuit in 1833, was a noted minister of early times and a defender of the faith.

The Rev. Mr. Overstreet, who unfortunately got drunk, like Noah, was expelled, and re-licensed to preach again as the records show, had a somewhat romantic, and marvelous career. During the early wars with the Indians he was captured by them and made their prisoner. They held a carousal over him and condemned him to death by burning. They built a fire and before binding him, one of the Indians grossly insulted him and Mr. Overstreet knocked him over into the fire. The other Indians, looking upon it as a very brave act, spared his life, and made him their slave. He was with them a number of years, but finally fell into the hands of some white men. By some means he heard that his wife had



been murdered by the Indians. Having, as he supposed, nothing to return to, he married again, but in a short time his second wife and child died. In his loneliness he concluded to go back to his old home. When approaching the house where he had lived, he saw smoke coming out of the chimney. He knocked at the door and when it was opened, his wife whom he thought murdered by Indians, stood before him. Upon seeing him she fainted. She had heard that he was long dead and had married again, and her second husband was living. The two husbands consulted over the matter and concluded to leave it to her which of the two she would choose. She chose her first love and the other one, like Enoch Arden, went to parts unknown. Mr. Overstreet and his wife came to Illinois and settled near Athens, Menard county, where he became a local preacher and prominent citizen. I am indebted to the manuscripts of the late Dr. James Leaton for the above story.

I am not surprised that Mr. Custer should make the mistake of supposing that Simon Peter meant Peter Cartwright. The ignorance, even among Methodists, concerning the early annals of Methodism in Illinois, is as deep as the darkest of Egypt. But it is a wonderful history notwithstanding, and without it a knowledge of the history of Illinois can never be fully written. Methodism and Methodist preachers and Methodist people constituted a formative power in our State unsurpassed by any other power or agency operative in it during its early history.





## OLD FORT BELLE FONTAINE.

W. T. Norton.

Immediately opposite the city of Alton, five miles directly south of it on the farther side of the Missouri river, with two broad rivers and a strip of bottom land intervening, can be seen all that remains of a frontier military post over which has waved the flags of three nations—France, Spain and the United States. It is the site of old Fort Belle Fontaine, famous in border annals, and, after the acquisition of Louisiana by the United States, its most important military post in the Mississippi valley. The post was established four miles above the mouth of the Missouri, with the evident intent of commanding both the Missouri and the Mississippi. Its first occupation may date back to as early a period as 1717, as there is a record of the establishment by the French, at that time, of a military post on the Missouri near its mouth, and Belle Fontaine seems the most probable point for its location. But if that was the case, it was subsequently abandoned. However, in the year 1768, five years after the founding of St. Louis, and the same period after the cession of Louisiana to Spain, a Captain Rios, a Spanish officer, arrived from the south to establish the authority of his sovereign in upper Louisiana. He selected this location on the Missouri as a strategic site for a fort, erected some log huts and a stockade, and named the post St. Charles in honor of his King. Whether it is the same site as that selected by the French in 1717 is an open question, with the probabilities favoring the sites being identical. But it seems that the Spaniards did not long occupy Fort St. Charles as a military post. In the year 1800 Spain conveyed back to



France the same territory it had acquired from that country in 1763, and in 1803 Napoleon sold it to the United States. The French, in their second brief occupation of three years, changed the name of the post to Fort Belle Fontaine in tribute to a beautiful spring that gushed from a small cave in the side of the cliff of sufficient volume to supply the wants of a large garrison.

After its occupation by the Americans Fort Belle Fontaine came into greater prominence, and was always well garrisoned. Here various treaties were made with the Indian tribes, and here military expeditions were fitted out for the exploration of the western wilderness. It was from this point that Lewis and Clark started on their memorable expedition to the head waters of the Missouri, thence to the Columbia and the Pacific ocean. The explorers and their party of fifteen or twenty men were encamped the winter of 1803-04 at the mouth of Wood River, in Madison county, on the Illinois shore, and directly opposite what was then the mouth of the Missouri, and in the spring of 1804 started on their toilsome journey up the turbid Missouri.

From Belle Fontaine on Sept. 23d. 1806, Gen. Zebulon Montgomery Pike started on his famous expedition up the Missouri and thence across the plains to the Rocky Mountains, signalized by his discovery on the following Nov. 15th of Pike's Peak, named for the explorer.

During the war of 1812 it was the point of rendezvous for campaigns against the British and their Indian allies. The records of the War Department give full reports of the selection of the old site of French and Spanish occupation, as the location of a frontier station two years after the Louisiana purchase had passed into the hands of the United States, from which I make such extracts as are essential to this narrative. The record says: "The occasion for the location of this military post was a stipulation in a treaty made at St. Louis, Nov. 3d, 1804, between William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Indiana





Territory, and the District of Louisiana, and the head chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes, by which the United States agreed to establish a trading house, or factory, at a point where these tribes can be supplied with goods at a more reasonable rate than they have been accustomed to procure them." In accordance with this agreement, in 1805, General Wilkinson, then commanding the army, was directed to select a site for the proposed factory and occupy the same with troops, and on the 10th of August he reported that he had encamped the troops at Cold Water, on a high, dry, narrow bottom of the Missouri, near a fountain of pure water, competent to supply a thousand men daily, where they are now engaged in the work of the cantonment and building of the factory." This point, he continues, is the site of the present village of Froisante, St. Louis County. The troops were six companies of the First Infantry, under command of Col. Thomas Hunt. From a rude drawing of the cantonment, made in 1807, on file in the War Department, it would appear to be located on a sandy bottom, beyond which was a bluff covered with timber. It was to this bluff that the cantonment was removed, four years later, on account of the unhealthiness of the original site. Four cannons were brought from St. Louis, in 1806, and mounted in the rear of the cantonment. Colonel Hunt died at the post in 1808, and was succeeded by Capt. James House, of the artillery, and later, in June, 1809, by Lieut. Col. Bissell, of the First Infantry. The new buildings erected on the bluff in 1809, included log barracks, a factory, an arsenal and a magazine of well-seasoned timber.

From 1809 to 1815 Fort Belle Fontaine was the headquarters of the department of Louisiana, which included Forts Madison, Massac, Osage and Vincennes. During the war of 1812 it was frequently threatened by marauding bands of Indians, in pay of the British, but was never attacked. For the twelve years following 1815 the garrison of Belle Fontaine was of varying strength. Its aban-



donment was finally decided on to erect a larger and more permanent fort nearer St. Louis. A new site was finally selected at Carondelet and the troops at Belle Fontaine were removed to the former point, and began the erection of what is now Jefferson Barracks. The last return to the War Department from Belle Fontaine is dated June 30, 1826, at which time the garrison consisted of four companies of the First Infantry, under command of Maj. S. W. Kearney. Ten days later the fort was abandoned as a military post, although a small arsenal of deposit was maintained there until 1834. In 1836 the government disposed of its interests to certain citizens of St. Louis. The land surrounding Belle Fontaine contained 500 French acres, and was purchased by General Wilkinson for the government for \$2,750.

A late visit to the site of the old fort enables me to give some particulars of its present aspect, and such reminders of its former occupation as still remain. Starting from Alton and crossing the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, thence following the line of bluffs on the south bank, and crossing Cold Water Creek, the writer came first to an old abandoned block house in the midst of a beautiful grove, such a house as was common on the border in the early days. This may be all that is left of the old village of Froisante, spoken of in the War Department record. A hundred yards farther on he suddenly found himself in the midst of an old cemetery, on the bluff, strewn with rocks and mortar, the debris of old tombs. All the tombs were in a more or less ruinous condition. They were built of masonry, about two feet above the ground, and upon them rested the memorial tablets. Most of the inscriptions were illegible, but some could be deciphered. On one stone the inscription was perfectly legible. It read: "In memory of Maj. Russell Bissell, of the U. S. Infantry, who died at Cantonment Belle Fontaine Dec. 18, 1807."





Another inscription, and a pathetic one, read: "In memory of the infant child of Col. Zebulon M. Pike, who died Nov. 23d, 1806." Pike's Peak was discovered by the explorer Nov. 15th of that month, just eight days prior to the death of his child, of which affliction he, doubtless, never heard until his return, the following year after his captivity by the Mexicans. History tells of Col. Pike's promotion after his return and the formal thanks tendered him by the government, but says nothing of the bereavement which greeted him on his arrival home. Such are the lights and shadows of an explorer's life. This inscription indicates that Col. Pike's family was domiciled at Belle Fontaine during his absence.

I have seen it stated that Gen. Pike himself was buried at Belle Fontaine, but I found no confirmation of it there. He was killed at the battle of York, now Toronto, during the war with England, on the 27th of April, 1813, in command of the American Forces, and it is not probable his body was brought back west for burial, nearly a thousand miles, during those troublous times, but it may possibly have been transferred after the war.

Near the old cemetery on the brow of the bluff, 125 feet above the river, is the old parade ground of the cantonment, stretching back in a level plain, now a field of grain. The present farm residence is near the bluff line of the parade ground. One wing is a part of the old buildings (officers' quarters). It is built of solid stone, with walls two feet thick. This relic must be over one hundred years old and is still well preserved. Along the verge of the bluffs are ruins of several other stone buildings, all facing the parade grounds, where the heroes of the frontier wars of a century ago drilled in battle array. Some rest in the old cemetery yonder, others lie in still lonelier graves on the battlefields of the border.

From the parade ground, which commands a splendid view of the surrounding country, and of the two great rivers of the continent, the bluff slopes steeply towards



the Missouri, but between the bluff and the river is an almost level bench, some two hundred feet wide, on which are remains of other buildings. On this bench have been picked up many relics of former occupation—cannon balls, fragments of ordnance, etc. Directly in the side of the almost vertical cliff is a cave, with an entrance about five feet high, and extending back an indefinite distance. Out of this cavern still flows the splendid stream of clear cold water spoken of by General Wilkinson.

“For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever.”

The French here found their name for the cantonment—Belle Fontaine (beautiful waters)—which the Americans perpetuated.

But what of the original American cantonment of which Gen. Wilkinson reported that it was located “on a high, dry bottom of the Missouri.” Well, that bottom has disappeared. Gen. Wilkinson had not added to his accomplishments a knowledge of the Missouri. That erratic stream, like the wind which “bloweth where it listeth,” has a habit of flowing “where it listeth” over the adjacent landscape. Some time subsequent to the removal of the cantonment to the bluff, a flood swept over that “high, dry bottom,” and the main channel of the river now flows over the original site. The Missouri respects neither history nor tradition, and regards not the works of man, but its murky flow, as it rushes past the moss-grown ruins on the bluff, serves to recall the fame of the intrepid explorers, who, here, over a century ago, first breasted its turbid water to win from the reluctant west the secrets of the wilderness.

And now, a suggestion: Would it be appropriate for the Historical Societies of Illinois and Missouri to unite in a memorial to the government to re-purchase the site of the old fort and the military cemetery adjacent, maintain them as a reservation, and restore, as far as possible, the old military cemetery? Surely the gallant heroes of the border who sleep there are entitled to this recognition.





## TRIBUTE TO CORN.

By Governor Richard J. Oglesby.

The following address was delivered before the Fellowship Club in Chicago, September 9, 1892, on the occasion of the Harvest Home Festival. So many requests have been made for copies of it that we give it in full.

Governor Oglesby sat between Joseph Jefferson and Conan Doyle at the speaker's table.

The corn! the corn! the corn! that in its first beginning and in its growth has furnished aptest illustration of the tragic announcement of the chiefest hope of man. If he die he shall surely live again. Planted in the friendly but sombre bosom of Mother Earth, it dies. Yea, it dies the second death, surrendering up each trace of form and earthly shape until the outward tide is stopped by the reacting vital germ, which, breaking all the bonds and cerements of its sad decline, comes bounding, laughing into life and light, the fittest of all the symbols that make certain promise of the fate of man. And so it died, and then it lived again.

And so my people died. By some unknown, uncertain and unfriendly fate I found myself making my first journey into life from conditions as lowly as those surrounding that awakening, dying, living infant germ. It was in those days when I, a simple boy, had wandered from Indiana to Springfield that I there met the father of this good man—Joseph Jefferson—whose kind and gentle words to me were as water to a thirsty soul—as the shadow of a rock to a weary man. I loved him then; I love his distinguished son now. Two full generations have been taught by his gentleness and smiles, and tears



have quickly answered to the command of his artistic mind. Long may he live to make us laugh and cry, cry and laugh by turns, as he may choose to move us.

But now again my mind turns to the glorious corn. See it! Look in its ripening, waving field! See how it wears a crown, prouder than monarch ever wore; sometimes jauntily and sometimes after the storm the dignified survivors of the tempest seem to view a field of slaughter and to pity a fallen foe. And see the pendant caskets of the corn field filled with the wine of life and see the silken fringes that set a form for fashion and for art.

And now the evening comes, and something of a time to rest and listen. The scudding clouds conceal the half and then reveal the whole of the moonlit beauty of the night; and then the gentle winds make heavenly harmonies on a thousand, thousand harps that hang upon the borders, and the edges, and the middle of the field of ripening corn, until my heart seems to beat responsive with the rising and the falling of the long, melodious refrain. The melancholy clouds sometimes make shadows on the field and hide its aureat wealth; and now they move, and slowly into sight there comes the golden glow of promise for an industrious land.

Aye, the corn, the royal corn, within whose yellow hearts there is of health and strength for all the nations. The corn triumphant! That with the aid of man hath made victorious procession across the tufted plain and laid foundations for the social excellence that is and is to be. This glorious plant, transmitted by the alchemy of God, sustains the warrior in battle, the poet in song and strengthens everywhere the thousand arms that work the purposes of life. Oh! that I had the voice of song or skill to translate into tones the harmonies, and symphonies, and oratorios that roll across my soul when standing sometimes by day and sometimes by night upon the borders of the verdant sea I note a world of promise;





and then before one-half the year is gone I view its full fruition and see its heaped gold await the need of man.

Majestic, fruitful, wondrous plant! Thou greatest among the manifestations of the wisdom and the love of God that may be seen in all the fields, or upon the hill-sides, or in the valleys. Glorious corn that, more than all the sisters of the field, wears tropic garments. Nor on the shore of Nilus nor of Ind does nature dress her forms more splendidly. My God! To live again that time, when half the world was good and the other half unknown!

And now again the corn! That in its kernel holds the strength that shall (in the body of the man refreshed) subdue the forest and compel response from every stubborn field; or, shining in the eye of beauty, make blossoms of her cheeks and jewels of her lips, and thus make for man the greatest inspiration to well doing, the hope of companionship of that sacred, warm and well-embodied soul—a woman.



## LYDIA GUNDY.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE LAST INDIAN RESIDENT OF WAYNE  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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Communicated by R. B. Evans, of Jeffersonville, Ill.

The writer having been familiar for years with the most important facts in the following narrative, has, of late, interested himself in the story and obtained details of interest of J. B. Brown, of Orchardville and Wm. Brown, of Zenith, Ill., sons of John Brown mentioned in this narrative.

In the winter of 1835 some hunters in the vicinity of Mill Shoals, White county, found in a cave or cavern an Indian squaw in a starved and frozen condition. She had hidden herself away for protection against the frost and snow, but in vain. She was badly frozen. Her feet in particular, and in her starved condition she presented a pitiful sight to the hunters, who in their uncultured manner were kind hearted and soon brought relief to the distressed woman.

The good people of the community came as the good Samaritan. They fed and clothed her until spring, when her feet having healed sufficiently for walking, she disappeared from the Mill Shoals neighborhood. Wandering up Skillet Fork river she was next seen in Wayne county in the region of the juncture of Nicholas creek and Paddy creek with Skillet Fork.

This Indian woman was wild and avoided meeting any of the settlers, but was occasionally seen running away to hide when any one approached too near her camp. Often the camp fire was found, but the Indian would not be seen.





This Indian woman lived in the forest as best she could, with only her hands to obtain her food. She made frequent invasions of the settlers' truck gardens and helped herself to any kind of food that suited her fancy.

This locality seemed to appeal to her more than any other and not knowing the way to her tribe she lingered here until winter was approaching. No one had ever succeeded in getting speech with her, and fearing she would starve and freeze during the winter, Philip Henson, being of a romantic disposition, organized a searching party to find her and prevail on her to adopt one of their homes and be cared for in a civilized way.

The men searched the forest in vain for days and all but Philip Henson gave up the search. He continued to ride through the forest day after day with his gun and finally came upon the woman secreted in a clump of bushes. She started to run away, but was soon overtaken by Mr. Henson on horseback who leveled his gun at her and called "halt!" The woman ceased running and faced her pursuer with both arms extended upward expecting to be shot. Mr. Henson explained his motive to her and insisted that she mount the horse behind him and go to his home. This she did and always seemed grateful for a home.

This forlorn woman told her benefactor in broken English that she was a Cherokee Indian; that her name was Lydia Gundy and that she, in company with a younger squaw had been enticed away from her people in the south by a white man who had promised "to wife her," but instead he had deserted her in the neighborhood of Mill Shoals, disappearing with the younger squaw.

Lydia Gundy lived in the Henson family as one of the household. She was kind hearted and industrious, always ready to perform any duty assigned her.

After the Henson children had all married and had homes of their own Philip Henson deserted his invalid wife and emigrated to Missouri, leaving her and Lydia



Gundy alone in possession of the farm. Mrs Henson was confined to her room all the time so all the labor fell upon Lydia, which she did without a murmur. There were but few men who could wield an ax or a hoe better than she could.

John Brown who married Sis (Narcissa) Henson, was a generous hearted man and responded to the call of duty when there was wood to haul or other work which Lydia could not do. This labor finally became burdensome to John Brown, as he lived several miles from Mrs. Henson. He then requested Mrs. Henson to move to his home where he could better care for her; but she declined the generous offer unless he take Lydia Gundy also. This he readily consented to do and the two women were moved to John Brown's home and Sis (Narcissa) Brown cared for her mother and Lydia being relieved of that duty assisted in the fields with her hoe. She thought a crop could not be planted without her aid. She did her work well and the Brown boys knew they would have no easy task when they were pitted against Lydia in any kind of outdoor labor. Labor saving machinery was unheard of in those days and it was a custom that the women assist in the fields. The soil was productive and yielded an abundance. The pioneers of Wayne county were like the Acadian peasants whom Longfellow describes as

"The richest were poor and the poorest lived in abundance."

In personal appearance Lydia Gundy was a typical Cherokee Indian. She had the upper part of the lobe of each ear cut off, but whether for ornament or as a punishment could not be ascertained.

The habits and customs of a people can not be changed in a generation. Lydia Gundy's love for the forest clung to her all her life. On days when there was no necessary work and of Sundays she would appear restless and would soon disappear and be gone most of the day and upon her return would tell of her trip which often extended over





several miles. Lydia called all of the Henson relatives "our folks" and would visit them and was talkative, but there was only one stranger who ever succeeded in gaining her friendship, that was Uncle Billy Harrison, a Baptist minister, who often preached at Mr. Brown's.

Lydia Gundy had seen the trees drop their leaves many times before she came to Wayne county, yet during the thirty-two years of her life here she always enjoyed good health. But one day in the winter of 1867 she complained of being sick and was given some of the home remedies kept in the house. That night she left her own room and came into the sitting room where Mr. Brown and other members of the family were sleeping. She sat down by the fire and seemed in great agony when Mr. Brown asked, "What is the trouble, Lydia?" She exclaimed, "O John I die!" Before any one could reach her, her spirit had flown to the Happy Hunting Ground of her forefathers.

The Henson cemetery in the north western part of Wayne county, contains an unmarked mound and only a few of the older people know that Lydia Gundy sleeps beneath its sod.



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## REPRINTS.

An excellent example of the art of bookbinding is shown in the front cover of the book, which is made of a fine, light-colored paper, and is decorated with a simple, elegant design. The binding is of a high quality, and the book is in excellent condition. The text is printed in a clear, legible font, and the illustrations are of a high quality. The book is a valuable addition to any collection of books on the subject of bookbinding.

Several of these reprints have been selected for the purpose of showing the most recent design of a copy of our





## THE VENOMOUS WORM.

By Prof. John Russell.

The Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society has had many requests from interested persons for copies of "The Venomous Worm," which is perhaps the most famous of Prof. John Russell's writings. We accordingly reprint it in order that it may be easily accessible to interested persons.

## THE VENOMOUS WORM.

By Prof. John Russell.

"Outvenoms all the worms of Nile."—Shakespeare.

Who has not heard of the rattlesnake or copperhead? An unexpected sight of either of these reptiles will make even the lords of creation recoil; but there is a species of worm, found in various parts of this state, which conveys a poison of a nature so deadly, that, compared with it, even the venom of the rattlesnake is harmless. To guard our readers against this foe of human kind, is the object of this lesson.

This worm varies much in size. It is frequently an inch in diameter, but, as it is rarely seen, except when coiled, its length can hardly be conjectured. It is of a dull lead color, and generally lives near a spring or small stream of water, and bites the unfortunate people, who are in the *habit of going there to drink*. The brute creation it never molests. They avoid it with the same instinct that teaches the animals of Peru to shun the deadly *coya*.

Several of these reptiles have long infested our settlements, to the misery and destruction of many of our



fellow citizens. I have, therefore, had frequent opportunities of being the melancholy spectator of the effects produced by the subtle poison which this worm infuses.

The symptoms of its *bite* are terrible. The eyes of the patient become red and fiery, his tongue swells to an immoderate size, and obstructs his utterance; and delirium of the most horrid character quickly follows. Sometimes, in his madness, he attempts the destruction of his nearest friends.

If the sufferer has a family, his weeping wife and helpless infants are not unfrequently the objects of his frantic fury. In a word, he exhibits, to the life, all the detestable passions that rankle in the bosom of a savage; and, such is the *spell* in which his senses are locked, that, no sooner has the unhappy patient recovered from the paroxysm of insanity, occasioned by the bite, than he seeks out the *destroyer*, for the sole purpose of being *bitten again*.

I have seen a good old father, his locks as white as snow, his step slow and trembling, beg in vain of his only *son* to quit the lurking place of the worm. My heart bled when he turned away; for I knew the fond hope, that his son would be the "staff of his declining years," had supported him through many a sorrow.

Youths of America, would you know the name of this reptile? It is called the *Worm of the Still*.

JOHN RUSSELL.

—McGuffey's Eclectic Fourth Reader: Published in Cincinnati, Winthrop B. Smith & Co., 1854.





## DANVILLE ENQUIRER.

First Paper Published in Danville, by John S. Williams,

From the Danville Enquirer, August 5, 1833.

Vol. 1, No. 1, —.

(Contributed by J. O. Cunningham.)

‘Danville Illinois.

“It may not be uninteresting to our friends at a distance to give a short statement of the village in which we this day publish the first number of our paper. Danville is situated 40 Degrees North Latitude on the Big Vermilion River, about 30 miles from its confluence with the Wabash and 12 miles on a direct line to that stream. The village is located on a high bluff and nearly surrounded with streams which empty into the Vermilion, many of which, beside the Big Vermilion, have excellent mill seats. The banks of these streams abound with a great quantity of bituminous coal and various minerals, of which we design to speak hereafter. It seems that Nature designed this spot for a village by spreading about 400 acres of rich, black, sandy soil, once covered with the hazel and plum bush, on this peninsula and bluff! in the midst of some of the finest timber in the State—said to be 12 or 14,000 acres in a body, and except at one arm, entirely surrounded with prairie of Illinois, which is the same as to say there can hardly be better land found in the world. On this and the local advantages of this county we will at some other time speak.

This village was commenced six years since under discouraging prospects for building.

There are now 81 houses, a usual number of out houses, a large brick Court House and Jail, a Land Office



of the United States, seven stores, two grocery stores, two taverns, a common number of mechanics, but most kinds much wanted, three physicians, three lawyers, the clerk of the different courts and three clergymen.

Besides the buildings referred to, we might mention others just out of the village, and a saw and grist mill, which is not, however, by its well attendance, able to supply the wants of the increasing population.

The road from Vincennes to Chicago passes through the center of the town, and across the river, of which contracts to the amount of \$2,000 will be entered into the 1st of September next, to construct a bridge. A very little expense, we are informed, will construct an excellent road to Chicago, 120 miles from Danville.

We speak of Danville because we know it, but there are many villages in this part of the state, we are told, fast rising into note. We ought not, however, to omit mentioning that adjacent to the town there are a beautiful collection of springs issuing from the bluff and falling thirty and forty feet and which if collected and with capital may (as any one a little versed in the science of water power will readily judge) be used for almost any kind of machinery. They are frequently found issuing from apparently exhausted beds of coal and limestone. So far as we are acquainted, and judging by comparison, we cannot see any obstacles to gradual growth of this village to a very large size and importance. All that is now wanted here is *means*, and population will follow.

Danville lies on the great road leading from Indianapolis to Vandalia, and another to Fort Clark and Galena, and is the great thoroughfare for drovers who pass through from Ohio and other states with cattle and horses collected in Illinois and Missouri.

P S.—We have just learned that one of our inn-keepers, Jesse Gilbert, has taken the pains to keep an exact account of all the cattle that have been driven through the





village during the summer of 1832, which are 5,784; and up to this period of 1833, 1,675. He remarked to us that besides the droves which have passed here for the eastern markets, many others he has learned have been driven by other routes to Chicago, Michigan, and markets farther south. He has been informed by the drovers that there are many other large droves brought up and now grazing, which will this fall be driven to Ohio and Pennsylvania.

If there could be any fact wanting to convince our eastern friends (who unfortunately, in some instances, think Illinois yet a barren waste, and without the elements of greatness) we are sure that this simple fact and a statement of the immense number of cattle which have passed through this one town on the border of this state, would convince them that Illinois is destined to be one of the greatest growing states in this Union.

These things are more particularly noticed that some farmers and capitalists who are now badly informed, or are ignorant altogether of the immense number of cattle even now raised in this new state, may become better acquainted on this subject and eventually invest their money in farms here, where all things combine to make the grazing of cattle and the raising of horses the cheapest in any quarter of our extensive and fertile country." —Danville Enquirer, August 5, 1833.



## HISTORICAL VIEW OF THE WESTERN COUNTRY —ILLINOIS.

(From The Quarterly Register of the American Education Society, November, 1830.)

Length, 350 miles; breadth, 180; 50,000 square miles; 40,000,000 acres. Next to Louisiana and Delaware, it is, perhaps, the most level State in the Union. One vast prairie spreads from the shores of the Mississippi to those of Lake Michigan, divided into wet and dry prairies, alluvial and those which are rolling. A belt of land below Kaskaskia, along the Mississippi, is, perhaps, the richest land in the world. A part of it has been occupied with the exhausting crop of maize for 100 years, without producing the slightest exhaustion of the soil. This State has very great advantages for inland communication. On the west, is the Mississippi; on the northwest, the Rock river, a long and boatable stream; on the northeast, Lake Michigan for a great distance, opening communications with Indiana, Ohio, Canada, and New York; on the east, the Wabash; on the south, the Ohio; in the centre, the Illinois and numerous other navigable streams. At present, the State is supposed to have 4,000 miles of boatable waters in her limits. The General Government has appropriated 100,000 acres of land for making roads and canals. The annual increase of the population, for several years, has been not less than 12,000, from emigration alone.

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### VIEW OF LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

(From The Quarterly Register of the American Education Society, November, 1830.)

ROCK SPRING THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, ILLINOIS.—This Institution is in Illinois, 17 miles east from St. Louis, Mo.,





on the principal stage road to Vincennes. The general plan of study is accommodated to the circumstances of the preachers of the gospel and to the wants of the country. Ministers, who have families, and those who are somewhat advanced in life, may attend the Institution, as may suit their convenience. It is established on liberal principles, though under the particular control of the Baptist denomination. There are two departments. 1. A high school, conducted on the general plan of a New England academy. 2. A theological department, designed for preachers of the gospel, of any age. As soon as circumstances will allow, a regular classical and theological education will be pursued. The whole expenses for an individual for a year is about \$50. Rev. John M. Peck is Professor of Christian Theology. Volumes in the library, 1,200. Number of scholars, about 50. Three sessions, one of 15 weeks, two of 14 each.

ILLINOIS COLLEGE, AT JACKSONVILLE.—Founded in 1829. Funds, \$13,000. About 15 or 20 students have joined the Institution. Rev Edward Beecher, late minister of Park st. church, in Boston, is President.

GENERAL EDUCATION.—The same provisions have been made for schools as in the other Western States. In addition to a thirty-sixth of the whole of public lands, three per cent. on all the sales of public lands are added to the school fund. One sixth part of the school fund, and two entire townships, are devoted to the support of an University.

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(From The American Quarterly Register, May, 1833.)

### EDUCATION IN ILLINOIS.

A thirty-sixth part of each township is granted for the support of schools; and three per cent of the net proceeds of the United States lands, sold within the State, is appropriated for the encouragement of learning, of which a sixth part is required to be bestowed on a college or university. A further provision has been made for a univer-



sity, by the grant of two townships of land by the United States. An "Illinois institute of education," was lately formed at Vandalia. *Illinois College*, at Jacksonville. Rev. Edward Beecher, president; Rev. J. M. Sturtevant, professor of mathematics and natural philosophy; Rev. W. Kirby, professor of Latin and Greek; Erastus Colton, preparatory department. About \$46,000 have been raised in the East and West, toward founding this institution. The building will accommodate 100 students. A philosophical apparatus, worth \$600 or \$800 has been procured. A president, two professors, and an instructor in the preparatory department have been provided. The college stands on a rising ground, in front of which is a beautiful prairie of 13,000 acres, or 20 square miles of the richest soil. At *Alton*, Madison county, an institution for the Baptists is about to be commenced. The library, and other property at Rock Spring will be procured. An organized college of the first order, it is intended soon to establish. Instruction, we believe, has been already commenced. Two or three other institutions are contemplated.

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#### FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CHICAGO.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, January 15, 1851.

Vol. II, No. XX.)

The following well merited commendation of the Public School system of this city, we take from the *Daily Chicago Journal*. We hope the present liberal policy will not only be continued, but that the time will soon come when the system shall be completed by the institution of a noble *Free Academy*, which shall bear the same relation to our Public Schools, that the Free Academy of New York does to hers.

"It is with a feeling of gratification, somewhat akin to pride, that we refer to the six Public Schools, that in the best sense of the word now adorn our city.





"Whatever the policy may have been in other matters, through all the changes of parties and persons, the educational interests of the city have been kept steadily in view. Men may have doubted and differed about everything else—the laying out of streets, the construction of Bridges, the erection of public buildings, the improving of Harbors, but the man has not been found who dare raise his voice against multiplying the facilities for popular education.

"In 1844, the first Public School Building was erected, there were then 915 children in attendance."

In 1846, two more edifices were completed, and the number of pupils had increased to 1,107. In 1849, the fourth was built, and 1,794 children were availing themselves of the means of education afforded. During the last year, the new edifices in the North and West Divisions of the city, were constructed, and there are now in session, six schools, with an aggregate attendance of twenty-three hundred children.

"The ratio of increase of those who throng these schools, for the last ten years, show to what great destiny Chicago is advancing. Thus swell the figures for the last ten years, from November, 1841, to November, 1851: 531, 808, 915, 1,051, 1,317, 1,517, 1,794, 1,919, 2,017. Talk about ascending series and Rhetorical climax! What flight of fancy so eloquent as this sentence of figures?

"And the means that have been employed to place our system of public instruction upon its present broad and liberal basis, also exhibit the growth of the city. In 1841, the School Tax paid by the city, amounted to \$1,984.89. In 1851, it reached \$12,844.07. Ten years ago, the total Revenue for educational purposes was \$1,984.89, yesterday it amounted to \$18,228.21. The total revenue for the last ten years is \$105,331.31, and the total Expenditures of the School Agent for the same period, fall but little short of \$50,000.



"The present value of the School Fund, is, in Cash and Securities, \$53,625.76; in Real Estate, \$150,000, together reaching \$203,625.76.

"In this connection, it is proper to remark, that since 1847, the expenditures of the School Agent, have been confined to the payment of teachers and incidental expenses pertaining to Public Instruction. Other expenditures since that date, such as for the erection of buildings, fuel, and the like, have been made by the Common Council.

"A rough estimate of the cost of the six Public School Buildings, and the necessary repairs, gives therefor, \$47,658.84. For Teachers, Fuel, &c., during the period alluded to, \$45,251.93, together making a total for these purposes, of \$92,910.77.

"Such is a brief, an abstract of the Educational Statistics of our city, and prosaic as it may be, it assuredly is the noblest eulogy that can be pronounced upon the intelligence, the wisdom, the enterprise and enlightened public spirit of its citizens.

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### SCHOOLS IN CHICAGO.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, November 15, 1851.

Vol. II, No. XVIII.)

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, kept in the basement of the First Baptist Church, located on the corner of Washington and LaSalle streets, is under the charge of Messrs. Beardsley and Gaston. Their spacious school-room is well filled with boys and girls, a majority of whom are studying the common English branches, though classes are formed and instruction given in all the branches usually taught in Academic Institutions. Evening classes are also received, to accommodate those young men who





are obliged to pursue some other occupation during the day.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Principal belongs to that class of teachers who are true enthusiasts in their vocation, devoting his whole time and energy to the business of instruction, and hence he has long since earned a high reputation. He is a rigid disciplinarian, and his method of teaching is precise, analytical, and practical. One feature of the school is worthy of notice. Particular attention is given to that kind of instruction calculated to prepare the student for the practical business of teaching.

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#### PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, March 15, 1853.

Vol. II, No. XXII.

The following slip, cut from the *Chicago Daily Journal*, shows the receipts and expenditures of the School Agent during the past year, and also the present state of the School Fund of this city:

"The recent report of W. H. Brown, Esq., School Agent, exhibits an excellent condition of things, in the finances of the department of public instruction.

"On the first of February, the Agent had on hand the sum of \$1,568.85.

"Since that time he has received from Geo. Manierre, Esq., School Commissioner, State dividends, \$1,321.00; for interest upon loans, \$4,836.25; for rents, \$1,949.10; for principal, \$4,462.00; of city of Chicago for expense of school fund, \$476.46; received for premium on specie received of school commissioner, \$6.00; received for taxes on account of South Chicago, \$337.87; making total receipts, \$14,957.53. During the same year he has paid for public instruction, \$6,921.17; paid balance of expense



account, \$416.80; paid loss on bank notes of Illinois at Shawneetown, \$21.00; paid principal loaned, \$6,105.00; leaving a balance in his hands of \$1,463.56, of which \$53 is counterfeit and uncurrent, received by the predecessor of W. H. Brown. The amount of money loaned upon and secured by real estate, is \$33,164.18; the amount of money loaned upon personal security, \$7,510.38; making the effective fund \$40,674.56. To this is to be added what is called the suspended debt on the books of the school agent, \$14,213.10. True amount of entire fund, \$55,187.66.

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#### ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL SCHOOL.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review, Chicago, Illinois, January 15, 1851.

Vol. II, No. XX.)

This School, under the charge of Rev. Chas. Reighley, is located on Adams street, between Wabash and Michigan avenues, and occupies a building erected for that purpose.

A Public Exhibition and Examination of the School took place on the 18th of December, at which many of the friends and patrons of the school were present. The exercises were interesting and the evidence of judicious and thorough instruction furnished by the different classes were abundant and highly satisfactory. As an expression from those who have directly patronized the school during the past year, we give the following resolutions adopted at the close of the Public Examination alluded to. Dr. B. McVickar being called to the Chair, and Walter Kimball, Esq., appointed Secretary; it was:

*“Resolved*, That the exercises of the pupils of the Rev. Mr. Reighley, as exhibited this evening, evince the efficiency of the instructions they have received under his charge, showing progress in learning creditable to both teacher and scholar.





“*Resolved*, That the Institute, established in this city by the Rev. Mr. Reighley, for the education of Youth, deserves the cordial support and encouragement of this community.”

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TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, July 15, 1851.

Vol. II, No. XIV.)

We have received a pamphlet, containing the “Proceedings of the Third Session of the Pike County Teachers’ Institute, held at Pittsfield, Ill.,” in May last. The session appears to have been a pleasant and profitable one. The teachers of Pike county, who are members of the Institute give evidence of being zealously engaged in improving and extending the usefulness of their calling. The addresses published with the proceedings, are all good, and evince a very commendable spirit.

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THE SCHOOLS OF DU PAGE COUNTY.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, March 15, 1852.

Vol. II, No. XXII.)

Mr. H. Brown, the efficient School Commissioner of DuPage County, Ill., closes his account of the Schools of that county, in the following article which we copy from the *DuPage County Observer*. If every Commissioner in the State would follow his example, in visiting, examining, and reporting, it would very greatly advance the cause of education among us.

“Having visited the schools throughout the county of DuPage, and having given a *particular* account of their condition and prospects, I know, in closing my labors, in this respect, for the season, present a *general* report in relation to the same.



"The whole number of schools taught in the county the past winter, is sixty-three, eight of which have been private schools; the aggregate number of pupils, which have been in attendance, is two thousand and sixty. Thirty of these schools have been taught by male teachers and thirty-three by females.

\* \* \* \* \*

"In relation to school-houses, there is a commendable spirit prevalent in many parts of the country. There is a growing desire in relation to having pleasant, and attractive, and convenient school rooms. During the past year, ten new school houses have been erected and several others have been thoroughly repaired and greatly improved. And it is hoped that this spirit will continue to spread and to operate until a suitable school house shall be provided for each school district in the county."

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### KNOX COLLEGE.

(From Eclectic Journal of Education and Literary Review. Chicago, Illinois, October 15, 1851.  
Vol. II, No. XVII.)

The *Knoxiana* for August is entirely filled with an account of the recent Commencement in Knox College, and the addresses, poems, &c., delivered on that occasion.

The following notice, taken from the same periodical, will give our readers an idea of the present condition of the College, which is located at Galesburg, Knox Co., Ill.:

"The catalogue for the last year shows the same regular increase in students which has marked the history of this Institution from its commencement. There was in attendance in the College 49 students, in the Female Collegiate Department 26, and in the Academic Department 299, making a total of 374. From the Catalogue we also learn that Prof. N. H. Losey has resigned his place as Professor of Chemistry and Natural Sciences,





and that his place will be filled the coming year by Mr. Abbot Hurd, a graduate of Middlebury College; Mr. Losey, however, retains the professorship of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. The Academic Department will be under the direction of Mr. M. L. Comstock, an able and competent teacher. Miss C. S. Tilden, under whose supervision the Female Department has enjoyed a high reputation, will continue at her post as Preceptress of this Department. These arrangements, together with the additions that have been recently made to the College buildings, present new inducements for those who wish to obtain an education in this place."

#### RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

(From The Quarterly Register of the American Education Society, February, 1831.)

##### ILLINOIS.

Nearly all the settlements, which have been formed by citizens of the United States, have been begun since 1800. In 1809, Illinois was erected into a territorial government. In 1818, it was admitted into the Union. Population in 1810, 12,282; in 1820, 55,211; in 1830, 161,055. Square miles, 59,000.

##### PRESBYTERIANS.

*Part of the Synod of Indiana.*

*Presbytery of Centre of Illinois.* Hardy Solomon, Greenville.

Spilman, T. A., s. s., Hillsboro.

Baldwin, T., s. s., Vandalia. Lippincott, T., s. s., Collinsville. Sturtevant, J. M., Jacksonville.

Bergen, J. G., s. s., Springfield. M'Donald, J., s. s., Shippingsport. Watson, C. L., s. s., Rushville.

Bliss, Stephen, s. s., Centreville. Spilman, B. F., s. s., Shawneetown.



Brick, J., w. c., Jacksonville.

Ellis, John M., Do.

13 min.; 24 chs 492 com.

BAPTISTS. 6 associations; 80 churches; 60 ministers;  
2,432 communicants. E. Roberts, Bon Pas, Corres-  
pondent.

METHODISTS. *Part of Illinois Conference.*

Wabash District, 13 preachers	4,480 members.	S. H. Thompson,
		Pre. Elder.
Illinois District, 12	" 4,369	" Peter Cartwright,
		Pre. Elder.
25	8,849	





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## EDITORIAL NOTES.



## ILLINOIS HISTORY.

"Of all the great branches of human knowledge, history is that upon which most has been written, and which has always been the most popular. And it seems to be the general opinion that the success of historians has, on the whole, been equal to their industry, and that if on this subject much has been studied, much is also understood."

With this paragraph Buckle begins his voluminous introduction to the History of Civilization in England. He might properly have added that a certain degree of civilization must be attained before the value of history is recognized. Systematic industry is indispensable for the development and utilization of natural resources and accumulation of wealth. And upon the wealth and education of a people depends, very much, their expansion of intelligence and refinement—in a word their civilization. This fact was realized, at an early period, by the builders of the State of Illinois; who, while coercing from the soil its latent riches, wisely based the educational facilities of their future generations upon the same resources, their industrial wealth, with the result that interest in their history has kept pace with their material and intellectual progress.

An important factor in the acceleration of that result in recent times, was the founding of the State Historical Library, and, later, the organization of the State Historical Society. To the influence of those two institutions must in justice be attributed, in great part, the effect that the State's history enters so largely in every plan of our public education, and is so prominent a feature in our current literature. From a very modest beginning the Historical department of the State has grown to sur-





prising proportions, and increased proportionately in value and usefulness to the people.

In the Historical Library there has been accumulated a vast amount of material relating to almost every sphere and aspect of the social, political, military, and financial, history of the State, to which constant additions are made as they become accessible. Its published "Collections" of Illinois history, though not yet extensive, are original, reliable, and eminently respectable.

The work of the State Historical Society is gaining satisfactorily in popular appreciation. Its membership is steadily enlarging; and there is manifested all over the State, an increasing and very gratifying disposition to aid its efforts. The volumes of its annual *Transactions*, as well as the pages of its quarterly *Journal*, contain contributions, and compilations, of marked ability, many of them attracting attention far beyond the State's limits. It is this class of students and writers who are making Illinois history a popular study, and keeping it abreast of other scholarly pursuits in the amazing progress of human knowledge of this age. In the decade of the State Historical Society's existence its managers and contributors have confined their labors, in the main, to researches in past events, statistics, and biographies, and will probably continue that course for some time, as it is essentially comprehensive of all ordinary purposes of history. Certainly, in this view, their success "has, on the whole, been equal to their industry," and in every way is quite comendable. This, however, is, in a broader sense, but the collecting and preserving of material essential for the ultimate production of a higher synthetical history of our people. The philosophical historian of the future will find in this great store of invaluable facts we are now getting together the requisite data for his generalizations in tracing the causes and relations of events, and the moral and physical forces that have wrought the wonderful advancement of this great commonwealth in every element of civilization.



## SANGAMON COUNTY OLD SETTLER'S PICNIC.

The annual picnic of the Sangamon County Old Settlers' Association was held at New Berlin on Wednesday, August 2, 1911.

About five thousand persons were in attendance and it is said to have been the largest crowd ever entertained in the town of New Berlin. Historical addresses were made by Ex-Governor Richards Yates, Hon. B. F. Caldwell, Hon. Thos. Ferns and others.

The oldest man present was John L. Parks, aged 89 years. The oldest woman present was Miss Elizabeth Duncan, of Loami, aged 100 years.

The oldest man present who was born in Sangamon county was Joel Ellis, aged 83 years. The oldest woman present who was born in Sangamon county was Mrs. W. M. J. Purvines, aged 80 years.

There were athletic contests, a baby show, music by the Capital City Band and a splendid picnic dinner.

### THE FIRST LOG CABIN BUILT IN THE COUNTY.

Prior to the close of the program the question of purchasing a slab to mark the site of the first log cabin built in Sangamon county was discussed and a committee appointed to take subscriptions for this purpose. The cabin was built in Ball township in 1816. A tentative date of October the 4th was set for the unveiling of this tablet and it was hoped that by that time the necessary subscriptions could have been obtained. The committee appointed immediately begun work and though no definite report can yet be made they are confident of the success of their efforts. This committee appointed is as follows: Dr. William Jayne, of Springfield; Samuel Carpenter, of Fancy Creek township, and George H. Yoacum, of Salisbury.

The officers of the Sangamon County Old Settlers' Association are T. M. Wilcox, president and Isaac R.





Diller, secretary, and there is one vice president from each township.

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 PIATT COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION  
 PLACE TABLET IN COURT HOUSE IN  
 MEMORY OF WILLIAM HART  
 PIATT, A TRUE PIONEER.

At the annual meeting of the old settlers of Piatt county postponed from Sept. 13th and held in Monticello Sept. 20th, a bronze memorial tablet to the honor of William Hart Piatt, the most active promoter of the organization of Piatt county and the town of Monticello, and the donor of the block on which the court house stands, together with other blocks and lots, whose proceeds of sale were to help build a court house, was presented to Piatt county in the name of the "Old Settlers' Association," by President W. P. Smith in an appropriate address and was received for the county by Chairman John A. Bender of the Board of Supervisors. The tablet will be placed in the main corridor of the court house. Its inscription reads as follows:

IN MEMORY OF  
 WILLIAM HART PIATT

A TRUE PIONEER

WHO DONATED THE BLOCK UPON WHICH THIS COURT  
 HOUSE STANDS

Son of James A. Piatt, for whom Piatt County is named. Born in Indiana in 1816, came to what is now Piatt County in 1829, and made it his home until his death in 1906. He was a leader in all that made Piatt County what it is. He came to a wilderness; he left a grand heritage to present and future generations.

THE TABLET WAS PLACED BY  
 THE PIATT COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION  
 September 13, 1911.



## WOODFORD COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' PICNIC.

Woodford county old settlers' picnic and Lincoln-Douglas boulder dedication was held at Metamora, Ill., Aug. 24, 1911. A splendid program was given as follows: Call to order at speaker's stand.....

.....President John L. McGuire  
Song ..... Choir  
Invocation.

Address of Welcome.....Mayor Dr. J. I. Knoblauch

Response on Behalf of Old Settlers..Atty. W. L. Ellwood

Song ..... Choir

Appointment of Committee on Nomination of Officers.

Music ..... Band

## 10:30 A. M., PROGRAM AT LINCOLN-DOUGLAS BOULDER.

Dedication of boulder placed by County Historical Society in Page's grove south of village limits, commemorating speeches of Lincoln and Douglas on the spot in their memorable campaign of 1858. The exercises at the dedication will take place in the following order:

Douglas Rally Song of '58.....Sung by Male Quartet

Reminiscences of Time of Speeches.....

.....Hon. John L. McGuire

Geological History of Boulder.....Read by J. C. Irving

Unveiling of Boulder.....Mrs. Myra Streid

Dedicatory Address.....Judge Geo. W. Patton

Lincoln Rally Song of '58.....Sung by Male Quartet

Posing of assembly at Boulder for photo.

NOTE.—Songs sung during exercises were selected from the campaign songs used at the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858.

Noon—Basket dinner in park. Hot coffee served free to old settlers and visitors.

## 1:30 P. M. RE-ASSEMBLY IN PARK.

Music .....Gehrig's Band

Song ..... Choir





Roll Call and Report of Secretary.....E. W. Dickinson  
 Election of Officers.  
 Address of the Day.....Judge Geo. W. Patton  
 Music .....Gehrig's Band  
 Short Addresses by Old Settlers.

2:30 P. M. BASEBALL GAME.

Roanoke vs. Washington, at ball park in the east end of  
 Metamora.

5:00 P. M. BALLOON ASCENSION.

The celebration was a most successful one. The old settlers of Woodford county and the Woodford County Historical Society are among the most active societies of the State and they most fittingly observe historical anniversaries in their locality.

They might be imitated to advantage by other county associations.

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### THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADMISSION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS INTO THE FEDERAL UNION.

It is none too early to begin plans for a great celebration in 1918 of the one hundredth anniversary of Illinois' admission into the sisterhood of states. In Peoria and some other places steps have already been taken looking toward such a celebration, but every locality and certainly every historical society, ought to observe this great historic anniversary. The State will probably signalize it in some large way. The completion of a great historical society or educational building would be a splendid memorial, and it is probable that such a building will be ready for occupancy before that time. It will be remembered that the last Legislature created a commission to formulate plans for a building of this character.

Members of the Historical Society are urged to consider this matter and use their influence in every way to aid in the project.



A building commensurate with the greatness of the State, of the anniversary, and the purposes for which it will be used would be a noble memorial of the State's One Hundredth Birthday.

### TOWN OF BATH TO CELEBRATE SURVEY.

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO LINCOLN MADE ORIGINAL PLAT.

An event which promises to be an attraction, not only to the people of that vicinity but from other counties, will occur in the village of Bath on November 1.

Bath was laid out by Abraham Lincoln November 1, 1836, it being the seventy-fifth anniversary of the laying out of the town by Lincoln. Lincoln was then a young man of 27 and was assisted by other young men from Sangamon county.

To commemorate this event the people of Bath are making extensive plans for a great day of jubilee and celebration. Bath is somewhat of a historic village and at one time the largest town and also the county seat of Mason county.

A committee has been formed to forward the work and carry out the celebration. Speakers have been engaged and everything points to a great day for Bath and Mason county.

Among the noted men who have been invited for the occasion are J Otis Humphrey, Shelby M. Cullom, Henry T. Rainey, Champ Clark and others. Governor Charles S. Deneen is to be invited and is expected to be present.

The local committee are much encouraged over the prospects for a great celebration and will continue to work to make it a success in every detail. Among those who are active in this work are the Rev. Mr. Overbaugh, Dr. Langston and Warren Breeding. In fact every citizen of Bath is interested in this event and is helping to carry out the plans. Today Bath is a flourishing village,





being a grain center and one of the largest fishing towns on the Illinois river.

Every citizen is proud that their little city has the honor of being one of the few towns laid out by Abraham Lincoln and looks upon the day as one of more than local interest.

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#### ILLINOIS MONUMENT AT ANDERSONVILLE, GA.

The Illinois commissioners have returned from an inspection trip to Andersonville, Ga., to investigate the progress made by the contractor engaged to erect the memorial to Illinois troops who perished within the walls of the famous confederate prison. The monument is now almost completed. The shaft is of bronze and granite, and is the most imposing of any erected by the northern states at Andersonville. Standing upon a massive base of granite is a figure of Columbia wrought in bronze. Two children standing before Columbia represent "Posterity," and at each end of the base is the figure of a soldier in repose. On one side of the base a few lines from Lincoln's first inaugural are carved, and on the other an extract from the Gettysburg speech of the martyred president. This monument, which will cost \$12,000, stands in the national cemetery where 15,000 union veterans are sleeping.

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#### PLAN MONUMENT TO LINCOLN.

ILLINOISANS LIVING ON COAST DECIDE TO ERECT SHAFT AT  
EASTLAKE PARK AT LOS ANGELES.

A memorial to Abraham Lincoln will be built in Eastlake park, Los Angeles, Cal., by the members of the Illinois Society. This action was decided on at the Illinois Society picnic, September 10, 1911, when 2,000 men and women agreed to raise the money.



## METHODISTS ERECT MONUMENT TO REV. JESSE WALKER AT PLAINFIELD, ILL.

The Rock River conference of the Methodist Episcopal church met in the Ottawa street Methodist Episcopal church, at Joliet, Ill., Sept. 27, 1911. An official welcome was tendered the ministers Tuesday evening by the citizens of Joliet.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon Wednesday the scene of activities of the preachers was shifted from Joliet to Plainfield for the dedication of the Jesse Walker monument under the joint auspices of the Methodist Episcopal churches, north and south.

Bishop E. R. Hendrix of the Methodist Church South, and Bishop Hamilton made addresses, with the unveiling by Master Everett Davis Weese, great-great-great-grandson of Jesse Walker.

Bishop Hamilton said in part:

"Jesse Walker was the founder of the Methodist Episcopal church in Illinois and Missouri and was the first presiding elder of the district known as Illinois and of the district afterward known as Missouri. He was also the first Methodist minister to enter the present confines of the Rock River conference, and as superintendent of the Chicago mission, held the first Methodist church services in Chicago.

"He was born in my native state (Virginia) June 9, 1766, and did not become a minister before he had reached his thirty-second year. While preaching in Tennessee he gave Peter Cartwright a license to preach.

"Jesse Walker made his home at Plainfield, then known as Walker's Grove. Mr. Walker was to the religious life of the Mississippi valley what Daniel Boone was to its civic life. He died in 1835 and was buried in an unmarked grave until Methodists of both the church north and the church south decided to erect this monument, which we dedicate this afternoon."





## LORADO TAFT'S INDIAN STATUE.

The statue of an Indian, the work of Lorado Taft, was unveiled at Oregon, Ill., July 11, 1911.

The statue is of heroic size and stands on Eagle's Nest Bluff above Oregon. The bluff is two hundred feet high and the statue can be seen for several miles. The statue is said by many to represent Black Hawk.

An account of the dedication ceremonies and a description of the statue will be given in the January Journal.

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TABLET TO SOLDIERS OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION BURIED IN SANGAMON  
COUNTY.

As stated in the last number of the Journal the Springfield Chapters of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, will on October 19, 1911, the anniversary of the surrender of Yorktown, place in the Sangamon county court house a tablet to the soldiers of the American Revolution who are buried in Sangamon county.

Mrs. George A. Lawrence, of Galesburg, State Regent of the D. A. R., will be present, as will the State President of the S. A. R.

Interesting exercises will be held and a reception will be given by Governor and Mrs. Charles S. Deneen and the Springfield Chapters at the executive mansion.

A full account of the celebration and a list of the soldiers whose names are engraved on the tablet with an account of their service, written by Mrs. E. S. Walker, of Springfield, will appear in the January Journal.

It is due to Mrs. Walker's untiring efforts that the names of the soldiers have been found, their places of burial located, and their military services verified by the War Department Records.



## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Wisconsin Historical Society has recently published two books of especial interest to Illinois and western readers; they are entitled:

Wisconsin Women in the War, by Ethel Alice Hurn, which is Original Papers No. 4, of the Society, and;—

The Chattanooga Campaign, by Michael Hendrick Fitch, Original Papers No. 6.

## ----- GENEALOGICAL NOTES.

Mr. Charles L. Capen, of Bloomington, Ill., has compiled a sketch of the descendants of John Capen (1765-1849) and Rhoda Thomson, with some account of his ancestry. 20 page. Bloomington, Ill.

## ----- DANIEL BRAZNELL, A MADISON COUNTY PIONEER.

By Kizzie Huskinson Shifflett.

Daniel Braznell was born at Dudley, Staffordshire, England, January 6th, 1813, being a direct descendant of the ancient family of Neville, on his maternal side.

He was a man of fine physique, being fully six feet tall and was of robust appearance. His manner was most engaging and none feared to approach him.

He married petite Nancy Johnson of Sedgely, Staffordshire, England, whose people were the famous iron workers of that place, by name of Wales.

With her, he emigrated to America, following the emigrants' trail to Cincinnati in 1833. From there he came direct to Alton, Illinois, and remained here permanently; following his trade as contractor and builder in various parts of Illinois.

On the old State House of Springfield, Illinois he was one of the contractors, and also the pioneer college of





Illinois, namely, Shurtleff College, Upper Alton, was his work.

Most of the buildings standing intact today on Second and Third streets, Alton, are the labor of his hands, and the product of his brick plant, the first of its kind in the city.

Mr. Braznell was one of the defenders of the fatal Lovejoy press, and on the eventful night of Mr. Lovejoy's murder, was the only person cognizant of the secret trap door through which the famous press was dropped to its final resting place in the Mississippi river—safe from further devastation. This noted warehouse was built by Mr. Braznell.

Mr. Braznell was a man of large and generous impulses, giving most freely of his plentiful earnings.

He and his good wife were primitive Christians, earnest in effort determined in well doing. They were prominent pillars of the Methodist church, and the first pipe organ was partly due to the untiring efforts of Nancy Braznell, his wife.

Mr. Braznell possessed a fine voice, and heartily enjoyed singing some of the grand old hymns with Peter Cartwright, the itinerant circuit rider of that day, who was often a guest of the Braznell home.

The striking traits in Mr. Braznell's character were kindness and benevolence, as was manifested by the many lamentations at his sudden death, February 13, 1877, while visiting in Springfield, Illinois.

Mr. Braznell's life was fruitful of four children: Mary Jane Braznell, who married Wm. Huskinson, civil engineer and railroad builder; Edward Braznell, who married Amanda Green, of Shipman, Illinois; Sarah Braznell, who married Phil. J. Sargent, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Mr. Braznell was survived by his widow five years.

Beloved by friend and trusted by foe Mr. Braznell was soothed and sustained by that unfaltering trust that



says, "He wrapped the drapery of his couch around him and sank gently down to pleasant dreams, for his conscience was clear."

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#### LITERARY EXECUTOR OF MISS CLARA BARTON.

Rev. Percy Epler, a son of the late Judge Cyrus Epler, of Jacksonville, Ill., has been appointed by Miss Clara Barton her literary executor by which arrangement he will, at Miss Barton's death, have charge of the books, papers and similar articles which she may leave and he will be a good man to handle the precious property. Doubtless there are many letters and manuscripts pertaining to her work which have not been published and Mr. Epler will see that the world gets the best use possible of them all as far as in him lies.





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## NECROLOGY.

Gen. Benjamin H. Grierson, U. S. Army, died at Washington, D. C., on the 10th inst.

The following is a list of the names of the officers and men who were killed in the battle of the Clouds, on the 26th of July, 1862.

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## GEN. BENJAMIN H. GRIERSON.

Gen. Benjamin H. Grierson died at his summer home in Omena, Mich., at 10:32 o'clock, Thursday night, September 3, 1911. For more than a year he had been in failing health and after going to Omena he sustained a fall, which served to hasten the end.

By the death of General Grierson there has been removed from the nation one of the most heroic defenders and Illinois has lost a commander, who in point of daring and initiative, was second only to Gen. U. S. Grant. The Grierson raid will be known as long as history lasts and the splendid courage displayed in and leadership of the grand old veteran will live through the ages.

General Grierson's life was remarkable in many respects. He gave of his best service to his country at the time of its greatest need. He was a man of excellent habits and good training and was thus enabled to endure great hardships and to give courage to those under his command. In consequence he was a great leader of men and a commander, whose tactics brought results. Since the death of General Grierson there are now surviving only five out of the 133 that were commissioned to the full rank of major general—General Julius Stahel and General Daniel Sickles of New York, General Greenville Mellen Dodge of Iowa, General James Harrison Wilson of Washington, D. C., and General Peter J. Osterhaus, who is in Germany.

The following facts were gleaned from the biography of General Grierson as written by Dr. W. F. Short in his "History of Morgan County:"

Benjamin H. Grierson was born July 8, 1826, in Pittsburgh, Pa., and was a son of Robert and Mary Grierson, natives of Dublin, Ireland. The family emigrated to this





country in 1819, settling at Pittsburg, later removing to Youngstown, Ohio, and thence to Jacksonville, Ill. Benjamin H. pursued a course of study in the high school and academy at Youngstown and passed an examination, which would have entitled him to admission to West Point military academy, but he declined the appointment on account of the opposition of his mother.

During his early years he was engaged in teaching music and still followed this as a profession after coming to Jacksonville in 1851. He possessed musical talent of high order and in early life conducted a noted band and orchestra. Later he spent some five years in the grain and mercantile business at Meredosia until about the beginning of the civil war, when he returned to Jacksonville.

When President Lincoln issued his first call for troops, young Grierson assisted in recruiting Company I of the Tenth regiment, Illinois volunteer infantry, and on May 8, 1861, joined the army at Cairo, serving for three months without pay as aide on the staff of Gen. B. M. Prentiss, serving with nominal rank of lieutenant. He was on duty for a time at Ironton, Mo., and later accompanied Gen. Prentiss on the expedition to Cape Girardeau. Oct. 24, 1861, he was commissioned major of the sixth Illinois cavalry, taking rank from Aug. 28 preceding, but remained on detached service with Gen. Prentiss in northern and central Missouri until November following when he joined his regiment at Shawneetown, Ill.

He was mustered in with his regiment Jan. 9, 1862, and started on Feb. 10, with his battalion under orders from Gen. Sherman to Smithland, Ky. He received orders March 25 to proceed to Pittsburg Landing, but was detained at Paducah by order of Col. Noble the commander. Three days later he was chosen Colonel of the regiment to succeed Col. Cavanaugh, resigned, and in June following was ordered to Memphis, Tenn. On the 19th of that month by a swift dash with 250 men of



his regiment and 50 of the Eleventh cavalry, routed a force of Confederates under Gen. Jeff Thompson at Hernando, Miss., killing and capturing fifteen, besides destroying a large amount of commissary and quartermaster stores, without the loss of a single man.

Under the order of Gen. Grant with a part of his regiment, and the Fifty-eighth Ohio infantry, he moved a week later to Germantown, Tenn., where he was soon joined by the Fifty-second Indiana and a section of artillery, from which point important expeditions were made, which led to securing a large number of colored men to work upon fortifications at Memphis. Returning to Memphis, July 18, he was soon transferred to Gen. Sherman's command, under whose instructions he was actively employed for several months scouting in different directions with uniform success. Mules were obtained, furnishing Gen. Sherman with transportation facilities, enabling him to join Grant's Mississippi expedition. Nov. 26 Col. Grierson left Memphis in advance of Gen. Sherman's corps and for the next fifty days was almost constantly in the saddle, successively under command of Sherman, Grant and McPherson. During this time he made a rapid march from Oxford, Miss., to Helena, Ark., destroying camp equipages, wagons, arms and ammunition, also pursuing Gen. Van Dorn's forces from near Water Valley, Miss., north into Tennessee, and after repulsing that general's attack at Bolivar drove him south of the Tallahatchie.

Col. Grierson was next assigned commander of the First Brigade consisting of the Sixth and Seventh Illinois and Second Iowa cavalry, and by order of Gen. Grant reported to Gen. McPherson, then commanding the Seventeenth army corps, of which the cavalry brigade formed the rear guard on the march to LaGrange, Tenn., where it arrived Jan. 14, 1863. Until April following, the cavalry force was employed in guarding the line of the Memphis & Charleston railroad and scouring the sur-





rounding country. Leaving LaGrange March 8 with 900 men of the Sixth and Seventh Illinois cavalry after a forced march of fifty miles, Col. Grierson attacked the southern forces under Col. Richardson near Covington, Tenn., effecting a complete surprise, routing the enemy with a loss of twenty-two killed and seventy captured, besides the destruction of commissary and quartermaster stores, train, ammunition and military records. Col. Grierson's loss in this expedition was only four men missing.

The colonel had now volunteered for the hazardous undertaking and he entered upon one of the most memorable and brilliant expeditions of the war. On April 17, 1863, under orders received from Gen. Grant, through Generals Hurlbut and Smith, he left LaGrange, Tenn., with 1,700 men with but three days' rations in their haversacks, and marching south through the entire state of Mississippi, a distance of over 600 miles, sixteen days later arrived at Baton Rouge, La. During the last twenty-eight hours of this raid Col. Grierson's force marched seventy-six miles, had four engagements, destroyed two Confederate camps, captured nearly 100 prisoners and crossed Tickfaw, Amite and Comite rivers.

The destruction of sixty miles of railroad and telegraph line, several million dollars in property, besides 100 soldiers killed or wounded and 500 captured and paroled, was the result of this famous expedition. A large number of colored men accompanied Grierson's force to Baton Rouge and immediately mustered into union regiments. Colonel Grierson's entire loss amounted to one officer, one non-commissioned officer and three privates wounded and nine missing.

The expedition proved the confederacy a "mere shell," disconcerted the enemy's plans, scattered and drew their forces from vulnerable points and threw them into such confusion as to render them unserviceable and unable to concentrate against General Grant's forces in the move-





ment against Vicksburg. As a consequence over 20,000 southern troops were ordered to different points by Generals Pemberton and Gardner, depleting the strength of the confederate forces at Vicksburg in the vain attempt to capture and destroy Colonel Grierson and his gallant band of audacious raiders from Illinois and proving an important factor in the capture of that southern stronghold three months later. On May 12 following, Grierson's command destroyed the railroads and telegraph between Clinton and Port Hudson, La., took part in a number of engagements and patrolled the region in the vicinity of Port Hudson until its surrender.

As a recognition of the services rendered in this remarkable campaign President Lincoln promoted Colonel Grierson to Brigadier General of Volunteers "for gallant and distinguished service" in his great raid through the heart of the so-called confederacy--his commission bearing date June 3, 1863, one month before the fall of Vicksburg.

General Grierson took an active part in all expeditions from western Tennessee into Mississippi in 1864, made with a view of attracting the attention of the rebel forces and drawing their cavalry from the front and flank of the main army under command of General Sherman during the operations of the latter in middle Tennessee, and especially while General Sherman was concentrating his forces for his famous "march through Georgia." By direction of General Halleck, General Grierson led a rapid and successful cavalry expedition from Memphis, Tenn., in mid-winter--December, 1864, and January, 1865--dealing a destructive blow to the enemy's communications with the south, by destroying railroads, capturing and destroying Hood's army supplies, including ordnance, commissary, medical and quartermaster stores at Verona, Miss., and capturing the rebel fortification and forces at Egypt Station, Miss.

Referring to the famous raid of 1863, General Grant stated in writing, now on file in the war department,





"General Grierson was the first officer to set the example of what might be done in the interior of the enemy's country without a base from which to draw supplies, and that the mid-winter raid of 1864-65 was most important in its results and most successfully executed."

It is impossible within the limits of this sketch to give a detailed account of even the most important of General Grierson's military achievements during the war period. Suffice to say that, up to the hour of the suppression of the rebellion, he was engaged in a service calling for gallantry, military skill and able leadership and was not found wanting, as shown in the reputation conceded to him in the history of that dramatic period.

On February 10, 1865, by direction of President Lincoln, he was assigned to duty with the brevet rank of major-general and ordered to report to General Canby at New Orleans, to take command of a cavalry expedition through Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. Returning to New Orleans he organized a cavalry force for service in Texas, and later was in command in northern Alabama with headquarters at Huntsville, where he remained until January 1866, soon after being summoned to Washington to testify before the congressional committee on reconstruction. While there he was promoted to major-general of volunteers to rank from May 27, 1865, "for gallant and meritorious service during the war of the rebellion." At his own request he was honorably mustered out of the volunteer service, April 30, 1866.

On the reorganization of the regular army, General Grierson was appointed colonel of the Tenth Regiment U. S. Cavalry, soon thereafter receiving the brevets of brigadier and major-general U. S. army. He organized his regiment at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and for nearly a quarter of a century was actively engaged in scouting and exploring throughout the western states and territories, being almost constantly in the field or at some exposed post in the midst of the most savage and warlike



Indians of the frontiers. In this way he rendered service to the government quite as hazardous and important as that rendered during the war of the rebellion. Besides this valuable service at various military posts, he commanded at different times the districts of the Indian Territory and Pecos, Texas; The Department of Texas; the district of New Mexico and the department of Arizona; with headquarters at Los Angeles, Cal., where he received his appointment as brigadier-general U. S. army, to rank from April 3, 1890. He was retired from active service on July 8 of the same year, since when he has resided at Jacksonville, Ill.

On Sept. 24, 1854, General Grierson was united in marriage to Alice Kirk, of Youngstown, Ohio, daughter of John and Susan (Bingham) Kirk. She died Aug. 16, 1888. Seven children were born to this union, of whom two daughters and one son are deceased. The surviving sons are as follows; Col. Charles H. Grierson, U. S. A., a graduate of West Point, now at Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.; Robert K., of Jacksonville, Ill.; Benjamin H., Jr., and George M., who are at Fort Davis, Texas, in the ranch business. On July 28, 1897, he was wedded to Mrs. Lillian King widow of Col. John W. King and a daughter of Moses G. Atwood of Alton, Ill., who moved from Concord, N. H., in 1837. Mrs. Grierson has one son, Harold Atwood King, general manager of a ranch belonging to General Grierson at Fort Davis, Texas.

In politics General Grierson was a Republican. Immediately on the organization of that party he became actively allied with it, earnestly advocating the election of John C. Fremont for the presidency, and in the campaign of 1856 was one of the very few supporters of Fremont in Meredosia, Morgan county, Ill.





## MRS. HARRIET RUMSEY TAYLOR.

In the death of Mrs. Taylor the Illinois State Historical Society has lost one of its earliest and most active members.

Harriet Rumsey was born at Compo Beach, Westport, Conn. She was the second daughter of Aaron Burr Rumsey and Lucretta Crane, his wife. The family moved to New York City when she was a child, and later returned to Westport, Conn. She came with her parents in 1849 to reside in Springfield. Her father, A. B. Rumsey, was superintendent of the railroad running from Springfield to Naples, which is now a part of the Wabash system.

Mrs. Taylor was married to Francis Taylor Nov. 12, 1866, going to New Berlin to reside.

Four children were born to the union, Charles R. of New Berlin, William F., deceased, Harriet S. of Springfield, Ill., and Frederick D. of Milwaukee, Wis. The deceased is also survived by four step-children, Mrs. Mary C. Couter, Albert Taylor, Francis I. Taylor and Edward H. Taylor, and three brothers, Charles Rumsey of Tustin, Cal., Girard W. Rumsey of Alton, Mo., and Arthur W. Rumsey of Kiowa, Kan. In 1894 Mrs. Taylor came to Springfield where she has since resided. She took an active interest in church and literary work; she was a member of the Every Wednesday Club of Springfield, and of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which society she was Chapter regent. She was also a member of the Springfield Woman's Club, and of the Illinois State Historical Society. She was much interested in these fields of labor and as she was possessed of great executive ability she was useful and helpful to every association with which she was connected.



She was much interested in the study of history and genealogy. She had a beautiful voice and was noted in her earlier days as a singer. She was of the family of James Rumsey, the inventor, and since her death her family has presented to the Illinois State Historical Society an oil painting of the little steamboat invented by Mr. Rumsey.

Mrs. Taylor's life was a full and serviceable one. She was a christian woman, who loved her parents, husband, children and her country, and she served well in the many capacities in life to which she was called.

Loved wife, fond mother and true friend,  
Crowned with life's laurels at thy journey's end.





## Publications of the Illinois State Historical Library and Society.

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No. 1. \*A Bibliography of Newspapers Published in Illinois prior to 1860. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago; assisted by Milo J. Loveless, graduate student in the University of Chicago. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 2. \*Information Relating to the Territorial Laws of Illinois, passed from 1809 to 1812. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D. 15 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 3. \*The Territorial Records of Illinois. Edited by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago. 170 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 4. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1900. Edited by E. B. Greene, Ph. D., secretary of the society. 55 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 5. \*Alphabetic Catalog of the Books, Manuscripts, Pictures and Curios of the Illinois State Historical Library. Authors, Titles and Subjects. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Library, by the librarian, Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. 363 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

Nos. 6-14 inc. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the years 1901-1909 inclusive. 9 volumes. Numbers 6 to 11 inclusive are out of print.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 1. Edited by H. W. Beckwith, President Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library. 642 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1903.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 2. Virginia series, Vol. 1. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord. CLVI and 663 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1907.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 3. Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858. Lincoln Series, Vol. 1. Edited by Edwin Erle Sparks, Ph. D., 627 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1908.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 4. Executive Series, Vol. 1. The Governor's Letter-Books, 1818-1834. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Clarence Walworth Alvord. XXXII and 317 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 5. Virginia Series, Vol. II. Kaskaskia Records, 1778-1790. Edited by Clarence Walworth Alvord. L and 681 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol VI. Bibliographical Series, Vol. I. Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879. Revised and enlarged edition. Edited by Franklin William Scott. CIV and 610 pages, 8vo., Springfield, 1910.

Illinois Historical Collections. Vol VII. Executive Series, Vol. II. Governors' Letter-Books, 1840-1853. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Charles Manfred Thompson. CXVIII and 469 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1911.



\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. I, No. 1, Sept., 1905. Illinois in the Eighteenth Century. By Clarence Walworth Alvord, University of Illinois. 38 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. I, No. 2, June 1, 1906. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, 1809-1811. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord, University of Illinois. 34 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

\*Circular Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1, No. 1, Nov., 1905. An outline for the study of Illinois State history. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, by Jessie Palmer Weber, Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library and Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society, assisted by Georgia L. Osborne, assistant Librarian. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Journals of the Illinois State Historical Society, Quarterly, Vol. I, No. I, April, 1908 to Vol. IV, No. 3, October, 1911.

Journals Out of Print.

\*Vol I, out of print. Vol. II, Nos. 3 and 4, out of print. Vol. III, out of print.

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## A CASE UNDER AN ILLINOIS BLACK LAW.

By J. N. GRIDLEY.

An election was held in Illinois on August 2, 1824, upon the proposition to call a convention to so change the constitution of the State as to make it a Slave State. A desperate struggle had taken place in which the pro-slavery party was led by Ex-Governor Bond, Judge Phillips, Elias K. Kane, T. W. Smith, Benjamin West and others, and the anti-slavery party was led by Governor Coles, Samuel D. Lockwood, Thomas Mather, George Churchill, Rev. J. M. Peck, Rev. Thomas Lippincott, Hooper Warren and others.

The legislature adjourned in February 1823, and the election could not be held until August 1824. This delay worked in favor of those opposed to the convention. In 1823 three new counties were formed, Morgan, Marion and Edgar, each being settled largely by anti-slavery men. Speeches were made in all the county seats and leading towns; thousands of pamphlets were printed and distributed; the conventionists boldly admitted they were in favor of slavery; personal encounters were frequent; liquor flowed freely, and the greatest excitement prevailed.

Two events occurred which turned the scale in favor of the liberty party. On December 9, 1823, the State House at Vandalia was set on fire by a mob which paraded the streets, shouting "The State House or death," and burned Governor Coles in effigy. In the spring of 1824 the *Illinois Intelligencer*, the chief organ of the convention party, became financially embarrassed and fell into the hands of Judge Lockwood as editor.

The election took place on August 2nd; there were 4,972 votes for a convention, and 6,640 against it, and



Mr. Daniel P. Cook was again elected to Congress.

This settled the question for all future time.

Although the plan to make Illinois a slave state in name was defeated, it was, in fact, a slave state in name before this election, and continued to so remain long thereafter; for the laws providing for the making of the negroes "Indentured Servants" made them slaves in fact. Such laws are now known as the Black Laws of Illinois.

On the 12th day of February, 1853, the legislature of Illinois enacted the following "Black Law" under which the case in this paper described was prosecuted. A copy of this law here follows:

AN ACT to prevent the immigration of free negroes into this State.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:* That if any person or persons shall bring, or cause to be brought into this State, any negro or mulatto slave, whether such slave is set free or not, shall be liable to an indictment, and upon conviction thereof, be fined for every such negro or mulatto, a sum of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 and imprisoned in the county jail not more than one year, and shall stand committed until said fine and costs are paid.

Sec. 2. When an indictment shall be found against any person, or persons, who are not residents of this State, it shall be the duty of the court before whom said indictment is pending, upon affidavit being made and filed in said court by the prosecuting attorney, or any other credible witness, setting forth the non-residence of said defendant, to notify the Governor of this State by causing the clerk of said court to transmit to the office of the Secretary of State a certified copy of said indictment and affidavit, and it shall be the duty of the Governor, upon the receipt of said copies, to appoint some





suitable person to arrest said defendant or defendants, in whatever state or county he or they may be found, and to commit him or them to the jail of the county in which said indictment is pending, there to remain and answer said indictment, and be otherwise dealt with in accordance with this Act. And it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue all necessary requisitions, writs, and papers to the Governor or other executive officer of this State, territory or province where such defendant or defendants may be found: *Provided*, that this section shall not be construed so as to affect persons, or slaves, bona fide traveling through this State from and to any other state of the United States.

Sec. 3. If any negro, or mulatto, bond or free, shall hereafter come into this State and remain ten days, with the evident intention of residing in the same, every such negro or mulatto shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and for the first offense shall be fined the sum of fifty dollars, to be recovered before any justice of the peace in the county where said negro or mulatto may be found. Said proceedings shall be in the name of the people of the State of Illinois, and shall be tried by a jury of twelve men. The person making the information or complaint shall not be a competent witness upon said trial.

Sec. 4. If said negro or mulatto shall be found guilty, and the fine assessed be not paid forthwith to the justice of the peace before whom said proceedings were had, it shall be the duty of said justice to commit said negro or mulatto to the custody of the sheriff of said county, or otherwise keep him, her or them in custody; and said justice shall forthwith advertise said negro or mulatto, by posting up notices thereof in at least three of the most public places in his district, which said notices shall be posted up for ten days and on the day and at the time and place mentioned in said advertisement, the said justice shall, at public auction, proceed to sell said negro or mulatto to any person or persons who will pay said fine



and costs, for the shortest time; and said purchaser shall have the right to compel said negro or mulatto to work for and serve out said time, and he shall furnish said negro or mulatto with comfortable food, clothing and lodging during said servitude.

Sec. 5. If said negro or mulatto shall not within ten days after the expiration of his, her or their time of service as aforesaid, leave the State, he, she or they shall be liable to a second prosecution, in which the penalty to be inflicted shall be one hundred dollars, and so on for every subsequent offense the penalty shall be increased fifty dollars over and above the last penalty inflicted, and the same proceedings shall be had in each case as is provided for in the preceding sections for the first offense.

Sec. 6. Said negro or mulatto shall have a right to take an appeal to the circuit court of the county in which said proceedings shall have been had, within five days after the rendition of the judgment, before the justice of the peace, by giving bond and security, to be approved by the clerk of the said court to the people of the State of Illinois, and to be filed in the office of the said clerk within said five days in double the amount of said fine and costs, conditioned that the party appealing will personally be and appear before said circuit court, at the next term thereof, and not depart said court without leave, and will pay said fine and all costs, if the same shall be adjudged by said court; and said security shall have the right to take said negro or mulatto into custody and retain the same until the order of said court is complied with. And if the judgment of the justice of the peace be affirmed in whole or in part, and said negro or mulatto be found guilty, the said circuit court shall thereupon render judgment against said negro or mulatto and the security or securities on said appeal bond, for the amount of fine so found by the court, and all costs of suit, and the clerk of said court shall forthwith issue an execution against said defendant and security as in other cases, and the sheriff or other officer to whom said execu-





tion is directed shall proceed to collect the same by sale or otherwise: *Provided*, that this section shall not be so construed as to give the security on said appeal bond right to retain the custody of said negro or mulatto for a longer time than ten days after the rendition of said judgment by said circuit court.

Sec. 7. In all cases arising under the provisions of this Act, the prosecuting witness, or person making the complaint and prosecuting the same, shall be entitled to one-half the fine so imposed and collected, and the residue of said fine shall be paid into the county treasury of the county in which said proceedings were had; and said fines, when so collected, shall be received by said county treasurer and kept by him as a distinct and separate fund to be called the "charity fund," and said fund shall be used for the express and only purpose of relieving the poor of said county, and shall be paid out by said treasurer upon the order of the county court of said county drawn upon him for that purpose.

Sec. 8. If, after any negro or mulatto shall have been arrested under the provisions of this Act, any person or persons shall claim any such negro or mulatto as a slave, the owner, by himself, or agent, shall have the right, by giving reasonable notice to the officer or person having the custody of said negro or mulatto, to appear before the justice of the peace before whom said negro or mulatto shall have been arrested, and prove his or their right to the custody of said negro or mulatto as a slave, and if said justice of the peace shall, after hearing the evidence, be satisfied that the person or persons claiming said negro or mulatto, is the owner of and entitled to the custody of said negro or mulatto, in accordance with the laws of the United States passed upon this subject, he shall, upon the owner or agent paying all costs up to the time of claiming said negro or mulatto, and the costs of proving the same, and also the balance of the fine remaining unpaid, give to said owner a certificate of said facts, and



said owner or agent so claiming shall have a right to take and remove said slave out of this State.

Sec. 9. If any justice of the peace shall refuse to issue any writ of process necessary for the arrest and prosecution of any negro or mulatto, under the provisions of this Act, upon complaint being made before said justice by any resident of his county, and his fees for said service being tendered him, shall be deemed guilty of nonfeasance in office, and upon conviction thereof punished accordingly; and in all cases where the jury find for the negro or mulatto, or that he, she or they are not guilty under the provisions of this Act, the said justice of the peace shall proceed to render judgment against the prosecuting witness, or person making the complaint, and shall collect the same as other judgments: *Provided*, that said prosecuting witness, or person making said complaint, in case judgment is rendered against him, shall have a right to take an appeal to the said circuit court, as is provided for in this Act in case said negro or mulatto is found guilty.

Sec. 10. Every person who shall have one-fourth negro blood shall be deemed a mulatto.

Sec. 11. This Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

On July 26, 1862, the Seventy-first regiment of Illinois Infantry was mustered into the military service of the United States for the term of three months, at Camp Douglas, Illinois. William H. Thacker, then of Havana, Illinois, was mustered in as the sergeant major of the regiment. Mr. Thacker later became a resident of Virginia, Ill., and while there was the publisher of a newspaper and an attorney. William H. Weaver, of Beardstown, was mustered in as the captain of Co. G, and Thomas Byron Collins, of Virginia, as second lieutenant.

On July 27, 1862, the regiment moved for Cairo, Ill., leaving two companies enroute at Big Muddy Bridge, on the Illinois Central Railroad. The regiment remained ten days at Cairo, when it was ordered to Columbus, Ky., where the men, mostly from the northern part of Illinois,





called Henry Clay. He was a man of great energy and ability, and was one of the most prominent men of his time. He was born in 1797, and died in 1852. He was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, and later of the United States House of Representatives. He was also a member of the United States Senate. He was known for his eloquence and his ability to bring about compromise.

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Henry Clay.

There was a large number of men who were then interested in the war, and the fact that Henry Clay was a member of the United States House of Representatives, and later of the United States Senate, was a great help to him. He was known for his ability to bring about compromise, and for his eloquence. He was a man of great energy and ability, and was one of the most prominent men of his time. He was born in 1797, and died in 1852. He was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, and later of the United States House of Representatives. He was also a member of the United States Senate.



suffered severely from the sudden change of climate. Two more companies were detached from the regiment and stationed at Mound City, Ill. In a short time the remainder of the regiment, six companies, was divided; Colonel Gilbert, of Danville, Ill., with three companies, was ordered to Moscow, Ky., and Lieut. Colonel Burn-sides, of Freeport, Ill., with three companies, was ordered to Little Obion Bridge to guard bridges and railroad tracks.

Upon the completion of its term of service the regiment rendezvoused at Chicago, Ill., where it was mustered out October 29, 1862.

During the wanderings of this regiment in the South, a bright young negro named Henry Clay came into the camp and attracted the favorable attention of Captain Weaver and Lieutenant Collins. The boy began serving these officers as a sort of waiter, and, remaining with them until the end of their term of enlistment, boarded the train bound for Chicago. Upon the departure of the officers for their several homes, after they had been mustered out, the boy, Henry Clay, begged Lieutenant Collins to take him to his home. Mr. Collins, who was a man of generous impulses, seeing the boy was about to be left a stranger in a large city, far from his home, without having the time to give the matter careful consideration, took him on board the train, brought him to his farm home in Cass county, about nine miles east of Virginia and seven miles northwest of Ashland. Here the lad found a good home and became a useful member of the household.

There was a large number of the citizens of Cass county then bitterly opposed to the prosecution of the war, and the feeling between them and those who favored its prosecution was intensely bitter. It was soon noised about that "Collins had brought a nigger home with him from the south," and it was soon decided that something ought to be done about it. As it was necessary to bring the matter to the attention of the courts, McKeever De-Haven, the jailer at Beardstown, made a complaint on





December 11, 1862, before Francis H. Rearick, a justice of the peace residing at Beardstown. This complaint is in the handwriting of J. Henry Shaw, a prominent attorney of that city, who many years later died at a Springfield hotel while serving a term as a member of the Illinois legislature, and recites that on or about the 1st day of November, 1862, a certain negro boy by the name of Henry Clay did at the County of Cass and State of Illinois, and since the 12th day of February, 1853, unlawfully come into the said State of Illinois, and remained therein ten days with the evident intention of residing in the same, contrary to the form of the statutes in such case made and provided.

Upon this complaint Justice Rearick issued a warrant for the arrest of "the certain negro boy named Henry Clay," addressed to all sheriffs, coroners, and constables within the State. This writ was delivered to Charles E. Yeck, then the sheriff of this county. His deputy, at the time, was James K. Van Demark, who was also the editor of the Beardstown Democrat. The return upon the warrant is in the hand writing of Mr. Van Demark and recites that he has arrested the within named Henry Clay on this 11th day of December, 1862, and has brought him into court.

The transcript of the justice recites the issuing and return of the warrant; the issue of the venire for twelve jurors to try the cause. Defendant then moves to have suit dismissed and defendant discharged for want of security for costs; motion to dismiss and discharge prisoner overruled; court then rules the complainant to file security for costs, which was complied with, and is herewith filed and approved. Defendant then moves the court that he be discharged, alleging that there was a prosecution pending against him for the same offense above charged; motion overruled; defendant again moves the court that this suit be dismissed because the complaint does not set out that the offense was committed since the Act passed February 12, 1853, entitled "An



Act to prevent the immigration of free negroes into this State" went into effect; motion overruled. Thereupon comes into court Sheriff Yeck and returns venire served upon the following named persons: (Here follows the names of twelve jurors, all since deceased). The jurors being first duly sworn, proceeded to hear the evidence adduced, and the witnesses in behalf of plaintiff having been examined, defendant called witnesses for defense, who was asked by defendant to state the impressions he had got from conversations with defendant whether or not defendant was guilty as set out in complaint, which was objected to, which objection was sustained by the court. Court ruled that witness for defense state facts within his knowledge, not impressions produced upon his mind, nor statements made by defendant, that he, defendant, did not come into the State with the intention of residing in the same. And the jury having heard all the evidence and argument of counsel, having so considered their verdict, returned into Court with the following verdict, to-wit: "We the jury, find the defendant guilty." signed by all the jurors. It is therefore adjudged by the court that the defendant be fined the sum of fifty dollars and pay costs of this prosecution, and defendant thereupon demands an appeal to the Cass County Circuit Court.

An appeal bond in the handwriting of Henry E. Dummer, who defended the boy, was executed on December 11, 1862, in the sum of \$145, signed by Henry Clay, who executed the bond by making his mark, and also signed by J. M. Pothicary, who was a brother-in-law of Thomas B. Collins, and a member of the Collins family. The case came on at the March Term, 1863, of the Circuit Court and was then continued to the September term of the same year.

The outraged citizens of the county were successful in obtaining a judgment against the negro boy, but the filing of the appeal bond held up the proceedings, and the "hateful negro" returned to the Collins home to the





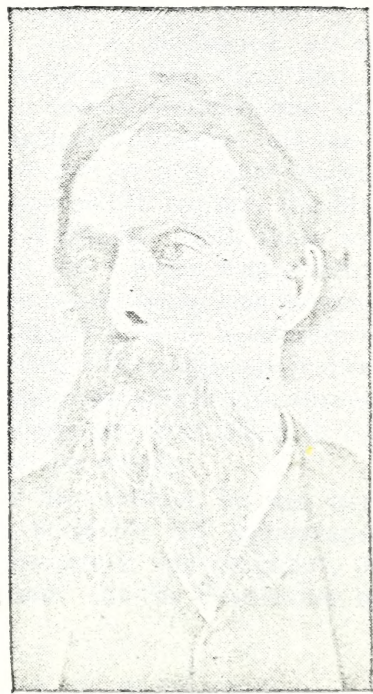
great disgust of a portion of the law-abiding neighbors. The next move was to bring the matter to the attention of the next grand jury, which met at Beardstown in March, 1863. This body found an indictment against Mr. Collins. It charges that the Grand Jurors, etc., present that Thomas Byron Collins, late of said (Cass) County, on the 1st day of December, 1862, at and within the said County of Cass, and State of Illinois, did harbor a negro, being a black person called Henry, who was not a resident of the State of Illinois on the 3rd day of March, 1845, nor at any other time in the said last mentioned year, nor at the time of the passing of an Act by the legislature of the State of Illinois, entitled "Negroes and Mulattoes," and approved on the 3rd day of March in the said last mentioned year, the said negro then and there not having a legal certificate of his freedom, and not having given bond and taken a certificate thereof as by law required, contrary to the form of the statutes in such case made and provided and against the peace and dignity of the same people of the State of Illinois. This indictment was signed by Abram Bergen, State's Attorney in and for the Twenty-first Judicial Circuit. The amount of bail was fixed at \$100 by James Harriott, the Judge of the Court.

No writ was issued in this case for several months, as the defendant was absent from the county for some considerable portion of the time.

Although the negro had been arrested and Mr. Collins had been indicted, still the despised black boy was breathing the air of Cass county and enjoying the comforts of a good home, contrary to the laws of the great free State of Illinois. The citizens who were urging on the prosecution were disappointed with the law's delay and were determined to hurry the business along. Plans were suggested and discussed at the secret meetings of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," an organization formed for the purpose of assisting the southern cause in the north by such methods as were not likely to result



In person, I have  
never known a more  
kindly and gentle  
of spirit, and more  
kind to the poor  
than I have known  
of any other man.  
I have known him  
give away his money  
to the poor, and  
I have known him  
give away his time  
to the poor, and  
I have known him  
give away his life  
to the poor.



Joseph K. Vandemark.

This is a portrait of  
Joseph K. Vandemark,  
late Sheriff of the  
County of Nevada,  
and died some time  
ago. This is a  
recollection of this man,  
which is here produced.

"In 1852 I was deputy  
Charles E. Yech. For





in personal harm to the members. One of the principal men engaged in this affair was Mr. U. Hutchings, a prominent farmer who afterwards became mayor of the City of Virginia. A deputation of the order was sent in the night to the Collins home to "run the nigger out of the county." Mr. Collins was away from home, the only man about the place being Joseph Pothicary, a brother of Mrs. Collins, who was a confirmed sufferer from asthma, and with no more physical vigor than a woman. They did not succeed in their enterprise, and, after giving utterance to threats against the negro, left the premises. A few days later a mob of some fifty men descended upon the Collins home, determined to capture the black object of their hatred at all hazards. Both these visits were made when they knew Mr. Collins was absent; had he been at his home there would have been serious trouble. Their coming was observed in time to secrete the object of their mission, and after a thorough but fruitless search of the premises they again departed with threats of vengeance. The next day the boy was taken to Springfield and never returned to the county.

After the return of Mr. Collins, he was arrested by the sheriff and gave bond for his appearance at the September term of the court, his neighbor, James R. Wilson, signing the bond. At the September term both cases were dismissed.

#### ACCOUNT OF JAMES K. VAN DEMARK.

This gentleman, as has been stated, was the deputy sheriff of the county, editor of the Beardstown Democrat, later county superintendent of schools; afterwards removed to Nebraska, served a term in the State Senate, and died some three years ago. In 1907 he wrote his recollection of this case under the Illinois Black Law, which is here produced in his own language.

"In 1862 I was deputy sheriff for a short time under Charles E. Yeck. Byron Collins enlisted and obtained a



captain's commission, but in four months he resigned and came home and brought with him a negro boy, which was against the laws of Illinois. At that time he was the only colored person in the county, and it was said that one who went south to enforce the law of the United States should not violate the statutes of Illinois. A warrant was sworn out, issued by Judge Rearick, I think, and handed to Yeck to have the boy arrested, but he did not relish the job and gave it to me. I mounted a horse and started to Dr. Christy's, who lived then about a mile from Philadelphia, and Collins some three or four miles northeast of the doctor's. I had eaten my dinner and was about to go over with two men to storm the Collins citadel. Collins said the boy should not go, but Collins' wife, seeing the other two men, said to him that he ought to submit, as there was a crowd of men to assist me. Collins had the rheumatism and was lying on a bed; he begged me to stay all night, and he and his brother-in-law, Joseph Pothicary, would go with me to Beardstown. I was well acquainted with Collins and he gave me his word that all would be right. I dismissed the man and slept with the negro, and next morning we started, myself and the negro in front, and Collins and his wife next, and young Pothicary behind them. When we came to the road that led to Dr. Christy's, I stopped and said that I had promised to come that way, and they would be uneasy if I did not. Pothicary rode up and said 'Come on, Henry,' and said to me, 'You may go that way, but we will go this way.' I pulled out my revolver and said, 'Henry, if you move, you are a dead nigger.' Mrs. Collins screamed, 'Don't shoot! Don't shoot! We will go your way.' Then Dr. Christy rode up and I went their way by the home of Dr. Pothicary. The main street of Virginia was lined with people anxious to see 'Collins' negro.' When we reached the Court House at Beardstown it was night and I did not return the warrant, although I was solicited so to do. I had promised the boy that if he would obey me I would not put him in jail. I





took him home, and locked him up, took all his clothes out of the room and in the morning I found that he had scarcely moved during the night; the forty miles of horseback ride had made him extremely tired. Judge Dummer appeared for the boy, the case was carried to the Circuit Court and before it was ended the Black Laws of Illinois were repealed. In 1870, I landed at Jacksonville from the west and a portly negro was in charge of the 'bus'; he passed me by but said not a word. While I was sitting in the office of the Dunlap House, he presented himself and said: 'You do not know me. I am Henry Clay, the negro boy that you arrested in Cass county. I shall never forget you nor your wife, nor your little girl. I was told by Collins that you were a copperhead, and that you would do everything against me, but I felt at home at your house. I have learned to read and write and will be a gentleman if I am black.' The day after I called on the clerk for my bill; the clerk looked on the register and said that Henry Clay had paid my bill and would pay it as long as I cared to stay. I never heard of him after that as I soon left for the west."

The foregoing account of Mr. Van Demark is inaccurate in several particulars: Mr. Collins was not the captain of a company, but second lieutenant; he did not resign in four months, but remained with his regiment until the end of his full term of enlistment; the law under which the negro was arrested was not repealed before the disposition of the case, but remained upon the statute book for two years afterwards.

The materials for this sketch were gathered by the writer some four years ago. I wrote to Mrs. Emily Collins Brady, a sister of Lieutenant Collins for her version of the affair. Mrs. Brady is a member of the Illinois Historical Society, being a native of Illinois; she resides in the city of Pomona California, where she is a prominent society leader, for six or more years has served as the president of the Ebell Club of some two hundred



members, and has been an active member of the Woman's Relief Corps.

In response to my request Mrs. Brady sent to me the following account:

ACCOUNT OF MRS. EMILY COLLINS BRADY.

"Write a sketch of the negro episode at your brother's as you recollect it."

"What a flood of long locked memories come rushing up in response to that request!

"The 'white heat' of all political parties, the frequency of great mass meetings, generally with barbecue attachment (I have attended many in the square at Virginia), the enlistment of all the 'boys,' the sorrowful mothers and troubled fathers; the hard times, with corn at 10 cents and muslin and calico at 45 cents; the 'news from the front,' brought by the daily papers by stage from Springfield or Jacksonville; the many hearts and homes made desolate as time went on, with most of the mothers and wives in black; the grief for those who could not be brought home; or who suffered in hospitals and prison pens; the solemn and very large funerals of the dear boys brought home; our 'hero worship' of those who came on furlough; the piles of letters we girls wrote and the interesting answers; yes, and the girls who had to do the work of men. I remember them, too, for my sister and I cut and hauled sugar cane from our home to John Sybrant's at Philadelphia—and ground and made it into molasses—cutting and hauling the wood also with which to boil it. Oh, these memories—how they crowd upon me now, but I must not forget I am to tell of a poor, forlorn negro boy with a great name 'tacked' on to him.

"There was a call in 1862 for volunteers for three months' service. My brother, T. B. Collins, enlisted under this call in Company G, 71st Ill. Infantry. He was made a second lieutenant. The regiment was sent south







Mrs. Emily Collins Brady.

The family on the 1st of June, 1861, consisted of Mrs. Collins and her three children, her husband, and her brother, a friend of the family, and a servant.



and spent most of the time in Moscow and Columbus, Kentucky.

"William Weaver was captain of the Company G and while in Kentucky had as a body servant a very nice black boy named Henry Clay.

"When the regiment was mustered out in October in Chicago, the boy found himself left out in the cold, and begged the second lieutenant to take him home with him, so that is the way Henry Clay came to the Collins farm in Cass county and proceeded to make history for that county.

"During the winter, numerous meetings were held in different localities to protest against the negro being permitted to live in the county. On the Collins farm the winter and spring passed with the daily routine of hard work for all, including the boy, who was found faithful, honest and capable. In 'the good old summer time,' then, as now, politics always waxed warmer and the feeling against the boy was again fanned into white heat, and the grand jury indicted T. B. Collins for keeping a negro in his home, or words to that effect. Before a warrant was served on him, he had left on a Sunday for Memphis, Tennessee, where he was trying to get a commission in a colored regiment.

"My mother was visiting the family at the time, and I have often heard her tell how, when the family awoke on Monday morning, there was a man on guard at every door and window, a dozen or more men to arrest one man, who would not raise his hand or voice to harm one of God's animals, least of all a human being.

"With what grace they could, the guard withdrew, on finding there was no one to arrest, but still Cass county was nauseated because there was a negro within its borders.

The family on the farm at this time consisted of Mrs. Collins and her little daughter, Emma, Joseph Pothicary, her brother, a hired man, Henry Clay and myself.





"On a Monday night, a few days after the guard had passed into history, we were awakened by a knocking on the pantry door, which was an outside door with four panes of glass, one of which was broken and had a cloth tacked over it. Mrs. Collins went in the dark to the door and asked 'who is there?' They refused to tell, saying they had come to get the 'nigger.' She refused to let them in, but after a parley, carried on through the broken glass, they assured her they were officers of the law acting in discharge of their duty; she replied, saying 'I am a law abiding woman, and will not resist an officer. If you will wait until I make a light and dress myself, I will admit you.' To this they agreed, and she made a light and told us all to get up and dress. The men slept up stairs and I was sent to call them and to tell Henry Clay to remain up stairs until called. Finally, all were dressed, and Mrs. Collins went to the door, with the light in her hand. When she opened it she saw a group of men with guns. She said: 'You are not officers,' and quickly shut and locked the door in their faces, and as quickly put out the light, before they realized what she was doing.

"In that brief glimpse she had recognized some of the men as acquaintances, and knew they were not officers.

"Then ensued a long discussion, with many threats from both sides of the door. The men threatened to break down the door, and Joe, with a gun, threatening to shoot if they tried it and if they got in and got the boy it would be over his dead body.

"They realized he had the advantage, as the house was in darkness, and those outside could see dimly in the darkness the moving figures.

"I remember distinctly how Mrs. Collins taunted them with their cowardice, coming at such an hour to capture one young boy; of her assurance she knew who they were, even calling some of them by name, and laughing them to scorn for allowing a woman to shut the door in their faces.



"Finally they left, saying they would return in one week, and if the boy was there then they would have him, no matter what happened.

"This happened on Monday night, and of course we expected them back the next Monday night, and so plans were made to send the boy to Springfield on Sunday, Joe was to take him; Dr. Pothicary was to stay at the house and I was also to come back, after going home for a few days.

"There was a political rally at Chandlerville, some ten miles away, on Saturday of the anti-war and southern sympathizers.

"I suppose they called themselves democrats, but misconstrued Webster's definition, 'one who adheres to government by the people.'

"The 'gang' who wanted the 'nigger' made it up at Chandlerville to go by the Collins farm and take him as they went home. There were about forty of them, well 'braced up' and God only knows what they would have meted out to the boy had they gotten him.

"On the farm, the corn was being 'laid by,' and was large and rank. Through the field ran a slough, lush with its crop of tall weeds and grass; the sun was bending low in the west as the men and teams came into the barnyard and began the evening chores. The mistress of the home stepped to the door, hoping to see her father and myself coming on horseback, and was disappointed; so turning her gaze in the opposite direction, far over the rolling prairie, in its glory of sunset hues, she saw something unusual on the horizon, a haze of smoke or dust, which seemed to be moving. Watching intently, she soon saw, a mile or more away, a large body of men on horseback.

Instantly she divined who they were; brave (?) troopers from the rally at Chandlerville, hunting down a poor negro boy. In an instant all was in commotion at the barnyard; the boy was sent coatless, hatless and barefooted to the field to hide as best he could. In a few





moments barnyard, road and house were swarming with the mob, many of them well known to the household, who hung their heads in shame and sneaked away when upbraided with their unneighborly conduct.

"They searched the barn, the yards and house, even counting the plates on the supper table, for the boy ate at the family table, such being the habit of radical abolitionists like Dr. Pothicary and his family, so they knew he had been there shortly before their arrival. As dark came on they posted guards around the farm, and the main body rode away. In the dusk of twilight Dr. Pothicary and I rode on horseback and met this column about two miles from the farm. The good old doctor kept himself between the mob and myself, and our steeds hugged the fence closely. If the men recognized us they did not indicate it, and we passed in mutual silence.

"We soon quickened our pace, as terror was in our hearts at thoughts of what we might find at the farm, but luckily all was well. It was a sleepless night for the household, with the sound of guns and dogs and new voices, as they rode around and sometimes into the corn field on their boy hunt. I suppose they finally sobered up, and decided it was a losing game, as all became quiet towards morning, and in the gray of early dawn Joe went out and found the boy in the tall grass of the slough where he had lain all night safely concealed, though men and dogs had often been near him. From the exposure and fright he was about used up. He was given a hot breakfast, and some bedding and sent back to the field, where he remained in hiding until after dark, then after another hot meal, Joe took him in a buggy and drove all night, going to Springfield, where Henry Clay was left with friends.

"He was a good boy and made a good man of himself. He was industrious and saving, and after some time was able to own a team and carriage, with which he made a start and some years later went to Jacksonville, where he married, raised a family, and prospered financially,



and twenty-five years ago was one of Jacksonville's highly respected colored citizens. Since then we have known nothing of him.

"In the fall, some time after Henry Clay went to Springfield, my brother returned from Memphis and as there was no negro at his home he was not arrested, and the charges were dismissed. Thus ended an event in the history of Cass county.

#### ACCOUNT OF HON. WILLIAM H. THACKER.

Mr. Thacker was the sergeant major of this 71st Regiment. Later he was admitted to the bar and practiced law for some years in Cass county, afterwards he became a resident of the state of Washington, where he served for several terms as district attorney, and was a member of the legislature of that state for numerous terms. Mr. Thacker is now a resident of Arlington, Washington. In 1907 he sent me his recollection of this negro in the following language:

"I presume that very few of the people of Illinois knew that but a little while ago it was in fact a slave state. I remember well 'the Collins nigger,' as he was called, and the strenuous trip, as Teddy would call it from Cairo to Chicago, which, owing to wrecks, bad tracks, etc., required three days and nights. It was generally understood by the company that the negro was not to go, but after we had reached some distance from Cairo, he cropped out, and then the fun commenced. Some of the boys, in dead earnest, took part, some for pure cussedness, and others just to see the fun go on. Time and again he was pushed, crowded or thrown from the train, and whenever the case became serious, some of the men would notify the lieutenant, if he were not on hand, and by threats, commands and promises, he would be permitted to climb back on the train. The promises were that he should be left in Chicago. Collins and I were seated together and I saw the whole thing. We ran very





slowly, frequently stopping—so slowly that we would get off and run along the side of the train for rest and recreation, and these times were taken advantage of to get rid of the nigger. He was a shrewd fellow, however, and formed a manner of resistance of his own. This was to always keep on the front car, and when thrown off to swing on to the next coach as it passed, and then work his way to the front again, to go through the same performance as soon as we stopped, or slowed up. I think Collins intended to leave the negro in Chicago, but as soon as discharged the men broke up into squads, and struck out for home, sometimes but one or two together, and then the darkey prevailed on the lieutenant to take him home. It is strange now that for three days that negro fought his way into the land of liberty against the threats, curses and blows of a large number of men who were fighting for human rights under the flag of freedom. During all that wrangle I never heard the question of law raised, and I don't suppose it was thought of.

#### ACCOUNT OF HENRY CLAY.

After a long and persistent search Henry Clay was located at the Soldiers' Home, in 1907, at Danville, Illinois, and with the assistance of Mr. W. O. Bryden, the secretary of the governor of the home, Clay's recollection of the facts were reduced to writing and signed and are here presented:

"I was born in Moscow, Kentucky, on the 3d day of March, 1839, and belonged, as a slave, to a family by the name of Titchworth, and was employed about the place as a house boy. I lived in Moscow until the breaking out of the civil war, when I ran away and became a servant for officers of the 10th Illinois Infantry. I was taken with a number of men of that regiment as a prisoner, and the Confederate troops put me to work building breastworks, etc. I later got away and then became a servant for Captain William H. Weaver and Lieutenant Thomas B.



Collins, of Company G, 71st Illinois Infantry. I remained with these officers and accompanied the regiment to Chicago, where it was mustered out in the fall of 1862. Being without a home, I requested Lieutenant Collins, who had been very kind to me, to take me home with him. This he did, and I remained with him and his family for some time, working about the place, for which he paid me. Sometime during that winter the sheriff, accompanied by two men, came to the Collins' home and placed me under arrest. The sheriff remained at the Collins' home over night, and the next morning we started to Beardstown, accompanied, as I now remember, by Mr. Collins, his wife, his sister, Miss Emma, Dr. Pothicary and some others, whose names I can not now recall. At one point in the road the sheriff and Dr. Pothicary had some discussion as to the proper way to go, my friends thinking that some harm might come to me by going in the direction the sheriff desired to take me. The sheriff finally consented and we went the way Dr. Pothicary suggested. When we arrived at Beardstown it was quite late, and I was kept in the sheriff's house all night. The trial was held before a justice of the peace, and Judge Dummer defended me. I do not remember the result of the trial, further than I was turned over to the care of Dr. Pothicary, who gave bond, or did something to get me out, and I returned to the Collins home, and continued working about the place during the remainder of the winter. Some time during the spring of the year, I can not tell just what time, but the corn was about 18 to 20 inches high, a mob came to the Collins place and tried to take me away. Mrs. Collins and her daughter hid me out from the house in a field and I remained there until the mob left. Dr. Pothicary then took me to Springfield, and put me in the care of a family by the name of Donnegan. These people were from Kentucky. I worked at odd jobs until the 29th Regiment of colored troops was organized, when I went to Quincy and enlisted in Company D of that regiment on the 12th day of January, 1864,





and served until the end of the war. I was twice wounded, once at Petersburg, and once at Danville, Virginia. After being mustered out I returned to Illinois and went to Jacksonville, where I drove a 'bus for a while. and later purchased a team and 'bus of my own, and engaged in business for myself. I remained in Jacksonville until 1885, when I sold out there and moved to Chicago and engaged in the livery business. I remained in this business until about the first of January, 1904, at which time I was compelled to close out my business on account of ill health, and I came to the National Soldiers' Home at Danville."

A letter of inquiry concerning Henry Clay recently addressed to the governor of the Soldiers' Home was answered as follows:

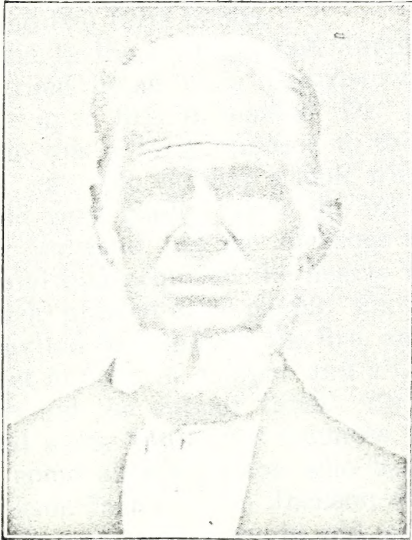
DANVILLE, ILL., November 23, 1911.

Respectfully returned with the information that Henry Clay died March 24th, 1910, and was buried in the Home cemetery with military honors.

WM. H. PLATT, Adjutant.

The treatment of this young negro by the Cass county "Knights" greatly enraged Dr. Thomas Pothicary, and perhaps on that account, he very readily accepted the Federal appointment of enrolling officer of his (Lancaster) precinct. The old gentleman performed the duties of that office with great zeal; it is said that fictitious names were furnished him as a joke, but Dr. Pothicary was no joker. The writer knew him well for years, and lived in the same family with him for many months and never saw him smile, or heard him laugh. Some of the names were those of absentees, whom the Dr. declared lived in Lancaster when they were at home, and ought to be represented in the Federal army. The list grew to formidable proportions and the excited residents began to realize that the draft upon the precinct would be heavy. Threats of violence against the old gentleman were freely made, and he was fired upon from ambush





Dr. Thomas Pothicary.





more than once. But nothing said or done appeared to frighten the gray haired official, indeed he would have been glad to have become a martyr to the cause in which he was so zealously engaged. During his official career an amusing occurrence took place at the Jackson farm home in that precinct. On a certain evening in March, 1865, the writer had occasion to visit this home, on a business errand. The family consisted of James and John and Margaret, brothers and sister—all middle aged unmarried people, and two farm hands.

The time was six in the evening, and James Jackson had not yet returned home from Beardstown. While seated around the open fire, in walked Dr. Pothier. John Jackson, who was bitterly opposed to the war, and a giant physically, gave the old man a look, which plainly indicated he would very gladly heave the intruder over the fence and into the road, but the Jacksons were early Illinois settlers, and had acquired the hearty hospitality of that class which present-day people know nothing about. He was invited to a seat by the fire, and in a few moments Margaret announced supper and all, by invitation, gathered around the supper table. By this time, the old doctor had made known his business, which was to inquire about some absent person who had suddenly left from the Jackson farm. John Jackson did not propose to furnish information that would add to the burden of Lancaster precinct, and was greatly indignant to learn the old man had come upon such an errand. The conversation at the supper table became very spirited, and is well remembered. "If you draft me," said John, "you may force me into the army, but you can't make me shoot a gun; you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink." "If you are drafted," replied the doctor, "and are put into the front rank, with a gun, after you have been fired at for a bit, you will warm up, and make as good a soldier as any of them."

This prophecy thoroughly enraged John and he furiously exclaimed: "You old scoundrel, you ought to be



shot, take another biscuit." Here Margaret found a chance to take a hand, and said: "You old, grey headed reprobate, going about getting your neighbors into trouble, you ought to stay at home, repent of your sins, and make your peace with God; won't you have another cup of coffee?"

The doctor made a hearty meal, and enjoyed it immensely.

A student of the history of the Black Laws of Illinois can not escape the conclusion that the sentiment of the majority of the first settlers of Illinois was pro-slavery; that after it became evident that Congress would not admit Illinois into the Union except as a free state, this admission was reluctantly consented to with a determination that, notwithstanding such admission, Illinois negroes should become and remain slaves, and by the system of indenture, they so well succeeded that an indentured black man in Illinois was very little better situated than a Georgia negro cotton picker. The election of a pro-slavery Legislature in 1822 abundantly proves that the majority of the Illinois voters were either in favor of slavery or profoundly indifferent upon the subject, and many of the opposers of slavery did not ground their opposition upon principles, but upon policy.

African slavery was a curse to the people of the United States, the blacks were better here, forced to work for plain food and coarse clothing, than their brothers, the naked cannibals of Africa, but the influence of slavery upon the white man was debasing in the extreme. Those who believe that the Creator of man shapes his destiny may not now be able to see why human slavery was permitted to exist in this country, but the problem will be solved when the exodus of the blacks from the United States to Africa begins. It is well known that the white race is regarded by the blacks with suspicion and hatred; that the "common people" among them are led by their preachers. The work of civilizing





the African in his native land can best be effected by men of their own race, and when this work is begun by the descendants of the former American slaves, the purpose of the existence of slavery in this country will become apparent.

Slavery was popular in the northern states so long as it was profitable, but owners soon learned that it was cheaper to hire black men for low wages, so long as they were able to work, and then turn them away than to own them and care for them in sickness and old age. Many "loyal" men of the north, during the civil war lived upon farms purchased with money realized from sales of slaves in the south.

The situation of the country was well described by an éloquent American in the following language: "The south had builded herself upon the rock of slavery. It lay in the very channels of civilization, like some flood rock lying sullen off Hell Gate. The tides of controversy rushed upon it and split into eddies and swirling pools, bringing incessant disaster. The rock would not move. It must be removed. It was the south itself that furnished the engineers. Arrogance in council sunk the shafts. Violence chambered the subterranean passage, and infatuation loaded them with infernal dynamite. All was secure. Their rock was their fortress. The hand that fired upon Sumpter exploded the mine, and tore the fortress to atoms. For one moment it rose into the air like spectral hills—for one moment the waters rocked with wild confusion, then settled back to quiet and the way of civilization was opened."



## HISTORY OF THE TITLE TO LANDS IN ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

By Charles L. Walker.

Prepared by Charles L. Walker, of Rock Island, for the Munsell Publishing Company's forthcoming History of Rock Island County. Published by consent of the Munsell Company.

### INDIAN LANDS.

The title to all lands in this State was first claimed by the Indians to be in them. That it was in the occupancy and possession of various Indian tribes is unquestioned, and their ownership was at least by right of discovery or conquest, or both, and actual possession; and the United States obtained from the Indians whatever title and possession they had, either by cession or force, or both. There is a contrariety of opinion as to which tribes of Indians first occupied the territory included within the boundaries of Rock Island county, but I think the most reliable information is that they were the Illinois, Sacs and Fox, Pottawatomies, Ottawa and Chippewa tribes, which were of the family or group of Indians known as the Algonquins. The Algonquin family is said to have consisted of the Illinois, Winnebago, Sac, Fox, Kickapoo, Miami, Ojibwa and other tribes. The Illinois embraced the Cahokias, Kaskaskias, Peorias, Mitchagamies and Tamaroas. The Ojibwas were subdivided into the Pottawatomies, Ottawas and Chippewas, and were early gathered around Green Bay.

The Illinois early claimed ownership and were in possession. The derivation of their name is Illini, "man," the plural "ek" being changed by the French to





"ois." They were a warlike race and seem to have been constantly in conflict with the Winnebagoes, Iroquois, Sioux and Fox tribes. The Foxes called themselves the Mush-wah-ha-kee, signifying "those of the red earth." Their "totem" was a fox. Of the Sacs, less seems to be known. Their name was originally spelled "Ou-sa-kies," then Sauks, and the term "Sacs" is an abbreviated corruption. Black Hawk was a chief of this tribe, and they came from the "Sac river" near Green Bay. Father Allouez says they were "penurious, avaricious, thievish and quarrelsome," and Judge Hall calls them "the Ishmaelites of the lakes."

By 1722, they, with the aid of the Kickapoos, had expelled the Illinois, and driven that tribe across the Illinois river, and were in possession of the region around Rock river, Illinois. In the war of 1812 they allied themselves to the British, which was undoubtedly a prime factor in their subsequent removal from this territory.

One historian declares that as early as 1678 the Pottawatomie, Ottawa and Chippewa tribes separated, and that the Pottawatomies went south from Green Bay along the west shore of Lake Michigan, and that a portion of them settled in Illinois, later going as far south as the Kaskaskia and Illinois rivers, and crowded the Winnebagoes and the Sac and Fox tribes to the west and north across Rock river. One of the early maps in the State Historical Library at Springfield shows them as occupying all of the land bounded by the Rock, Mississippi, Illinois and Fox rivers to the Wisconsin line; and the Winnebago, Sac and Fox tribes as occupying the territory northwest of Rock river.

#### UNITED STATES TITLE.

Great Britain and France each early claimed title to this land by right of discovery subject to the Indian occupancy. The method of reasoning by which they claimed title, was based upon the fact of superior enlightenment and wisdom which, with their civilization



gave them greater ability to govern the country and the savages with which it was peopled; and therefore the resultant legitimate right of ownership, and title to the land.

This theory ignores the fact that the Indians discovered the land before they did, or by their superiority vanquished the previous discoverer, and therefore acquired the title to the lands. And the lack of equity or justice, if not the fallacy of such claim, rests in the fact that a people that may yet come claiming to be more enlightened than we will therefore have the legal right to supplant and dispossess us of our property, and by virtue of their own *fiat* of the existence of their *alleged* superior intelligence or civilization, acquire the legal title to our property. This position is utterly untenable, is devoid of reason, and equity, and subversive of every principle of law and justice. This theory rests alone upon the doctrine of *might* instead of *right*; and it is to destroy and overthrow such doctrine that President Taft is so strong in the advocacy of the principle of arbitration between nations; and shall he succeed in this, we will almost be able to discern the dawn of the millenium, in this regard.

But, be this as it may, it is most gratifying to note that the people of the United States of America notwithstanding the cession by Great Britain of its title to this territory, always recognized the title of the Indians thereto, and by treaty with the various Indian tribes, as herein-after set forth, obtained their titles to, and possession of the land in this State upon the payment of money, property and sustenance. Whether the amount paid was adequate in every instance is questionable, but with the exception of the treaty of Sept. 21, 1833—after the Black Hawk war—the intent to punish the Indians does not appear, while the amount paid under the treaty of Oct. 1, 1834, would seem to have been reasonably adequate. In considering this question it must always be borne in mind, that in those early days land values both in forest and





plain, were at the minimum; the amount abundant, the demand small, and its quality and productiveness extremely variable.

By the treaty of 1763 between Great Britain and France, Great Britain ceded to France the land west of the Mississippi and France ceded to Great Britain its right and title to all the lands east of the Mississippi, subject to the occupancy by the Indians. And by the treaty which concluded the Revolutionary War, Great Britain ceded this land to the United States, and it thereby acquired the title to all these lands subject to such Indian occupancy.

By the ordinance of 1787 the United States by legislative action assumed active jurisdiction over this territory, and from time to time made treaties with the various Indian tribes for the relinquishment of their title and possession of these lands to the United States.

Prior to Dec. 20, 1783, this county was a part of Virginia. On that date the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia enacted a law empowering its delegates in Congress to execute a deed conveying to the United States, for the benefit of such states, all the country within the limits of the Virginia Charter lying northwest of the Ohio river, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the Act of Congress of September 13, 1783, one being that it be divided into states of not less than 100 nor more than 150 miles square. On March 1, 1784, such conveyance was made by its delegates, Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Samuel Hardy and Arthur Lee. By the ordinance of 1787 Congress ordained that said country be thereafter divided into not less than three nor more than five states, and that the "Western State" should be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Wabash rivers and a line drawn direct from the Post Vincents on the Wabash, due north to the Canada line and by the said line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. *Provided* that Congress may divide "the



territory lying north of a line drawn east and west through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan.

On December 30, 1788, the General Assembly of Virginia modified its original act authorizing the creating of not less than three nor more than five states.

On May 7, 1800, Congress passed an act creating the Indiana territory out of so much of said cession which lay westward of the line beginning at the Ohio opposite the mouth of the Kentucky river, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north to the Canada line.

On February 3, 1809, Congress divided this territory, and ordained that all that part of the Indiana Territory which lay west of the Wabash river, and a direct line drawn from said Wabash river and Post Vincennes north to the Canada line, should constitute a separate territory called Illinois, and that the Governor should exercise all the duties of "Superintendent of Indian affairs."

On April 18, 1818, Congress authorized the inhabitants of the territory to form a State government and defined its boundaries as beginning at the mouth of the Wabash river, thence up the same and with the Indiana line to the northwest corner of said state; thence east with the line of the same state to the middle of Lake Michigan; thence north along the middle of Lake Michigan to north latitude  $42^{\circ} 30'$ ; thence west to the Mississippi river; thence down along the middle thereof to the Ohio river, and thence up the latter river along its northwestern shore to the beginning.

On August 26, 1818, the provisions of this Act were accepted by the inhabitants of the State in convention, at Kaskaskia, and a constitution adopted ratifying such boundaries.

On Nov. 3, 1804, the Sac and Fox Indian tribes at St. Louis made a treaty with William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Indiana Territory and the District of Louisiana, Superintendent of Indian affairs and Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the United States, and the chief and





headman of said tribes, whereby they established the following provisional boundary line between the land of the United States and Indian tribes as follows, viz.: Beginning at a point on the Missouri river opposite the mouth of the Gasconade river; thence in a direct course so as to strike the River-Jefferson to the Mississippi river; thence up the Mississippi river to the mouth of the Ouisconsin (Wisconsin) river, and up the same to a point thirty-six miles in a direct line from the mouth of said river; thence by a direct line to the point where the Fox river (a branch of the Illinois) leaves the small lake called Sakae-gan; thence down the Fox river to the Illinois river, and down the same to the Mississippi.

And said tribes, for the consideration of friendship and protection and goods valued at \$2,234.50, then delivered, and \$1,000 annually thereafter, thereby "ceded and relinquished forever to the United States all the lands included within the above boundary." The Indians were given full right to live and hunt upon said lands so long as they remained the property of the United States. This treaty was signed on behalf of the Indians by Layouvois, or Laiyuwa; Pashepaho, or the Giver; Quashquame, or Jumping Fish; Outchequaha, or Sun Fish; Hahshequaxhigua, or the Bear, by their marks.

On Sept. 14, 1815, at Portage des Sioux, the Hon. Wm. Clark, Ninian Edwards and Auguste Chouteau, Commissioners of the United States, made a treaty with the king, chiefs and warriors of the Fox tribe or nation to re-establish peace and friendship between them, and Article 4 of the treaty recited that the Fox tribe or nation "consents to, recognizes, re-establishes and confirms the treaty of St. Louis of Nov. 3, 1804", which was signed by the "marks and seals" of twenty-two of the Indians, among them Pierremaskin, the fox who walks crooked; Muckkatagout, black cloud; Mamasocanamet, he who surpasses all others; Mackkatanauamakee, the black thunder; Pashechenene, the liar; Malasenokama, the war chief;



Mataqua, the medical woman, and Paquampa, the bear that sits.

On May 13, 1816, at St. Louis, the same commission made a treaty with the Sacs of Rock river and the adjacent country. This treaty *recites* the treaty of peace with Great Britain at Ghent, which was duly ratified Feb. 17, 1815; the appointment of said commissioners Wm. Clark, Governor of Missouri territory; Ninian Edwards, Governor of Illinois territory, and Auguste Chouteau, Esq., of Missouri territory, to conclude a treaty of peace with this tribe of Indians; that they notified the "Sacs of Rock river" and adjacent country of the ratification of said treaty with Great Britain, and invited them to send a deputation to Portage des Sioux for that purpose, their refusal to attend, the commission by them of hostilities and depredation, and their desire for peace, etc.

Article 1 of this treaty recites that the Sacs of Rock river and the adjacent country "unconditionally assent to, recognize, re-establish and confirm the treaty" concluded at St. Louis Nov. 3, 1804.

By Article 2, the United States agreed to place the "Sacs of Rock river" on the same footing in which they stood before the war, provided they delivered up, by July 1st next, all property they had stolen or plundered from the citizens of the United States since they were notified of said treaty with Great Britain; and, by Article 3, their failure to do so forfeited all claims to the "annuities" under said treaty.

This treaty was signed by twenty-two Indians, among them Anowart, or the One Who Speaks; Matchequawa, the Bad Axe; Mascho, Young Eagle; Mucketamachekaka, Black Sparrow Hawk; Sakutoo, the Thunder that Frightens; Warapaloka, the Rumbling Thunder; Wapalamo, the White Wolf; Mashaski, the Fox; and Wapamukqua, the White Bear.

On August 24, 1816, the same commission made a treaty with the united tribes of the Ottawas, Chippewas





and Pottowatomies residing on the Illinois and Melwakce rivers and on the southwestern part of Lake Michigan, which recites a serious dispute as to the right of said tribes to a part of the lands ceded to the United States by the tribes of Sacs and Foxes on Nov. 3, 1804; and, by Article 1, the said chiefs and warriors, for themselves and the tribes they represented, released and relinquished to the United States all their right, claim and title to all the land contained in the before mentioned cession of the Sacs and Foxes, which lies *south* of a due west line from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river; also cede a tract along the Fox, Desplaines, Kankakee and Illinois rivers and along Lake Michigan ten miles on each side of "Chicago creek."

This was for the consideration of \$1,000 in goods for twelve years, and relinquishment by the United States to said tribes of all land ceded by the Sacs and Foxes by said treaty of Nov. 3, 1804, which lies north of the said due west line from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river, except a tract not to exceed five leagues square around the mouth of the Ouisconsin river, and waters and banks of the Ouisconsin and Mississippi rivers.

This line would pass through the northern part of Rock Island County, crossing a few miles north of Port Byron, and to this portion the Pottowatomies, Ottawas and Chippewas retained whatever right or title they had therein.

On August 19, 1825, a treaty was made at Prairie des Chiens between Wm. Clark and Lewis Cass, Commissioners for the United States, and the chiefs, warriors and representatives of the Sioux and Chippewa, Sacs and Fox, Menominie, Iowa, Winnebago and a portion of the Ottawa and Potawattomic tribes, for the purpose of promoting peace and establishing boundaries between them. By Article 9 thereof, the country secured to the Ottawa, Chippewa and Pottawatomie tribes of the Illinois is bounded as follows: Beginning at the Winnebago village on Rock



river, 40 miles from its mouth, and running thence down Rock river to a line which runs from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, and with that line to the Mississippi, opposite to Rock Island; thence up that river to the United States reservations at the mouth of the Ouisconsin; thence with the south and east lines of the reservations to the Ouisconsin; thence southerly, passing the heads of the small streams emptying into the Mississippi, to the Rock river at the Winnebago village.

This treaty was signed with "mark and seal" by thirteen Sacs and sixteen Foxes and numerous warriors of the other tribes.

On August 25, 1828, the United States made a treaty with the Winnebago and united tribes of the Pottawattomie, Chippewa and Ottawa tribes, agreeing upon a boundary line, beginning at the mouth of the Ouisconsin river and running to the Mississippi river via Blue Mounds, Pocatoloka creek, Spotted Arms village, the ridge dividing the Winnebago country from that of the Pottawattomie, Chippewa and Ottawa tribes, and thence southerly on said ridge to a line from Chicago, near Rock Island, and granted to the United States the right to occupy all of the lands between said boundary lines and the Mississippi river for the consideration of \$20,000.

On July 29, 1829, at Prairie des Chiens, Gen. John McNeil, Col. Pierre Menard and Caleb Atwater, Esq., representing the United States, made a treaty with the united nations of Chippewa, Ottawa and Pottawattomie Indians of the Illinois, Milwaukee and Manitoonck rivers, whereby they ceded to the United States aforesaid, "all the lands comprehended within the following limits, to-wit; Beginning at Winnebago village on Rock river 40 miles from its mouth, and running thence down Rock river to a line which runs due west from the most southern bend of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river, and with that line to the Mississippi river opposite to Rock Island; thence up that river to the United States reservation at





the mouth of the Ouisconsin; thence with the south and east lines of said reservation to the Ouisconsin river; thence southerly, passing the heads of the small streams emptying into the Mississippi to Rock river aforesaid at Winnebago village, the place of beginning. Also another tract described as follows: Beginning on the western shore of Lake Michigan at the northeast corner of the field of Antoine Ouitonette, who lives near Grove Point about 12 miles north of Chicago; thence running due west to the Rock river, aforesaid; thence down the said river to where the line drawn due west from the most southerly bend of Lake Michigan crosses said river; thence east along said line to the Fox river of the Illinois; thence along the northwestern boundary line of the cession of 1816, to Lake Michigan; thence northwardly along the western shore of said lake to the place of beginning. This line would seem to pass through Rock Island County, a few miles north of Port Byron.

The consideration for this section was \$12,000 in goods and \$16,000 annually forever in specie at Chicago, fifty barrels of salt annually forever, and the use of a permanent blacksmith shop at Chicago, and also the payment of \$11,601 to persons having claims against the Indians, as scheduled.

By Article IV, the United States agreed to grant land to various persons therein named, among them to Antoine and Francis Leclaire, one section *each*, lying on the Mississippi river, north of and adjoining the line due west from the most southern bend of Lake Michigan, where said line strikes the Mississippi river, with the proviso that the tracts of land therein stipulated to be granted shall never be leased or conveyed by the grantees, or their heirs, to any person whatever, without the permission of the President of the United States.

The Indians were granted the privilege of hunting on said lands so long as they were owned by the United States. The United States agreed to survey the northern line of said cession from Lake Michigan to Rock river.



This treaty was signed by the marks of Sin-eh-pay-nim, Kawb-suk-we, Sou-ka-mock, Chee-chee-pin-quay and thirty-one other chiefs and warriors.

On Oct. 27, 1832, a treaty was entered into by the United States with the chiefs and warriors of the Pottawotomies whereby they ceded to the United States their title and interest to all lands in the States of Illinois and Indiana and in the territory of Michigan for the consideration of \$15,000 annually for twelve years, \$42,000 in goods, and the payment by the United States of their debts, aggregating \$20,721, and also \$2,000 to educate Indian youths.

On Sept. 21, 1833, following the Black Hawk war, at Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, Ill., a final treaty of peace, friendship and cession was made by Gen. Winfield Scott and the Hon. John Reynolds, of the State of Illinois, representing the United States, and the chiefs, head-men and warriors of the "Sac and Fox" Indians.

This treaty recites that certain "lawless and desperate" leaders constituting a formidable band and a large portion of the Sac and Fox nations, left their country in April, 1832, and, in violation of their treaties, commenced an unprovoked war upon citizens of the United States, which, at great expense, has subdued said hostile band and killed or captured all of the principal chiefs and warriors. Thereupon, partly to indemnify it for such expense and partly to secure the future safety and tranquility of the invaded frontier, the United States demanded of said tribes (to the use of the United States) a cession of a tract of the Sac and Fox country, bordering on said frontier, *more* than proportional to the numbers of said hostile band. Said tribes accordingly ceded a large territory in Iowa to the United States and among other things provided:

By Article V, the United States agreed to pay to Farnham & Davenport, Indian traders, at Rock Island, \$40,000 to satisfy their claims against said tribes for articles furnished them.





By Article VI, the United States, at the request of said confederated tribes, agreed to grant by patent, in *fee* simple, to Antoine Le Claire, interpreter, a part Indian, one section of land opposite Rock Island and one section at the head of the first rapids above said Island within the country herein ceded by the Sacs and Foxes.

By Article VII, Muk-ka-ta-mish-aka-kaik (or Black Hawk) and his two sons, Wau-ba-ku-shik (the Prophet), his brother and two sons, Napope, We-shut, Iowa, Pama-ho, and Cha-kee-pa-she-pa-ho (the Little Stabbing Chief) were to be held *as hostages* for the future good conduct of the late hostile bands during the pleasure of the President of the United States.

This treaty was signed by the "marks" of nine of the Sacs, including Keokuk, "or he who has been everywhere," and by twenty-four of the Foxes.

On Oct. 1, 1834, the United States made a treaty with the united nations of the Chippewa, Ottawa and Pottawattomie Indians, whereby they ceded to the United States *all their* land along the shore of Lake Michigan, and between that lake and the land ceded to the United States by the Winnebago nation by the treaty of Fort Armstrong, made Sept. 15, 1832, bounded on the north by the country lately ceded by the Menominees, and on the south by the country ceded at the treaty of Prairie du Chien, made July 29, 1829, and supposed to contain 5,000,000 acres of land.

This cession was in lieu of 5,000,000 acres of other land to be given them by the United States west of the Mississippi river; also, \$250,000 to satisfy claims of persons against them. \$100,000 in goods, \$280,000 to be paid in annual amounts of \$14,000 for twenty years, \$150,000 for the erection of mills, etc., \$70,000 for the education of young Indians, and \$4,600 to certain Indians named.

On Dec. 17, 1834, the United States made a treaty with the Pottawattomies whereby they agreed to remove farther west within three years thereafter to a country provided for them by the United States.



By these numerous treaties it is apparent that the United States became seizin of an absolute and indefeasible title to all the land in this portion of the State of Illinois.

Rock Island County is located in governmental townships: Sixteen, in Ranges One to Six West; Township Seventeen, in Ranges One to Seven West; Township Eighteen in Ranges One and Two West; Township Seventeen, in Range One East; Township Eighteen, in Ranges One to Three East; Township Nineteen, in Ranges One to Three East; Township Twenty, in Ranges One to Two East, and Township Twenty-one, in Range Two East. It borders about 60 miles along the Mississippi river and has about 440 square miles.

The plats in the General Land Office at Washington show the survey of two Indian boundary lines in Rock Island County—the most northerly one by Sullivan and Duncan in 1819, and the other by Flack and Bean in 1821. That by Sullivan and Duncan was made pursuant to, and to locate the southerly boundary line of the cession of the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottowatomies made at St. Louis on August 24, 1816, heretofore mentioned, and runs from near the centre of Section 32 through the balance of Township 18, Range 1 West, and thence easterly to most southerly bend of Lake Michigan, in accordance with *that* treaty. The *other* line was surveyed by Flack and Bean in 1821 as a “resurvey” of the line by Sullivan and Duncan, but they were “unable to close” the public survey to said Sullivan and Duncan line further than the “mile corner.” This survey ran the Indian boundary line into Township Eighteen, Range Two West, until it intersected the Mississippi river in the southwest quarter of Section 34.

The survey of Antoine and Francis LeClaire was made by Charles R. Bennett in 1833, north of said Indian boundary line surveyed by Sullivan and Duncan in said Township Eighteen in Range One West, and is





a tract of 1,280 acres which was granted to said Antoine and Francois LeClaire by Article IV of the treaty of the united nations of Chippewa, Ottawa and Pottowattomie Indians of July 29, 1829. Locally this tract is known as "LeClaire's Reserve," and all of it was long ago sold and conveyed by them.

A small portion of the northerly end and also in the south part of this county was "swamp land," and the title to that vested in the State of Illinois under the "Swamp Land Act."

The island of Rock Island, upon which is located the United States Government Arsenal, is located within the boundaries of Rock Island County. This island is about two and one-half miles long by three-quarters of a mile wide. Upon it the United States erected a fort in 1816, naming it Fort Armstrong, and it has always since remained a military post.

By the order of the commissioners of April 8, 1825, the land upon this island was *reserved* for "military purposes." But, notwithstanding this, a tract on the east end of the island was sold, and repeated attempts were subsequently made to pre-empt and purchase this land and possession was taken by such persons. Afterwards, however, the United States government purchased all outstanding claims and is now the unquestioned owner of the entire island.

So that, with the exception of the island of Rock Island, the United States has divested itself of all its title to the land in this county, which it derived from Great Britain, as well as from the various Indian tribes.



## THE VISIT OF ALFRED TENNYSON DICKENS TO ILLINOIS.

By Hon. J. Nick Perrin.

Almost seventy years have passed since Charles Dickens' visit to Illinois. An account of this visit was incorporated later into Mr. Dickens' *American Notes*. The seeming inaccuracies that have been discovered in the author's narrative are in kind such as may be attributed to any traveller whose hurried visit does not allow ample opportunity for thorough observation of detail. Of course, the residents of a particular locality are generally disappointed over a frank description given by a visitor. And yet, the visitor sees the drawbacks almost before he does the attractions. Particularly does the visitor who comes from a place where conveniences abound notice the inconveniences of a less fortunate place. It is not surprising that the resident of a thoroughly systematized country should notice the lack of many things in a new country and hence Dickens saw in "the wild and woolly west" the absence of that orderly regulation to which he had been accustomed in England. If his prophecies, however, would have condemned us to an irrevocable fate, his vision would not have been that of a keen philosophical observer, as subsequent history has demonstrated. But he recognized the possibilities of America and on a second visit realized still more thoroughly the vast future that lay in store for our country. In fact, the encomiums that emanated from him are among the choicest expressions of good will and God speed received by the young republic. And the years since his visit in 1842 have covered a period of rapid change and tremend-





ous development, so that if it had been his good fortune to have paid America a third visit, his appreciation would have grown into absolute admiration for our present day greatness with its prospective future growth.

Charles Dickens came to America for the first time in January, 1842. He came from Liverpool to Boston. He visited all the large cities of the east, met our most distinguished personages and was feted by them. From Pittsburg he commenced his trip into what was then the west. He went down the Ohio, rounded the marshy site where Cairo was then beginning to struggle into existence under the manipulations of a company organized for speculation, ascended the Mississippi and arrived at St. Louis on April 11. There he was shown every mark of attention of which the early-time metropolis of the west was capable. During his stay he evinced a desire to see an American prairie. And hence his entertainers arranged for a trip to take place on April 15 that had for its objective point the Looking Glass prairie in Illinois, which is about twenty-five miles east of St. Louis. This trip is described in Dickens' *American Notes* and a review thereof by Dr. J. F. Snyder appeared in the October, 1910, Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. After crossing the Mississippi to the site of the present city of East St. Louis, the route lay along the National Road through the American Bottom to a range of small hills called bluffs at whose base was a straggling French village composed of about twenty families; thence up the hills and along the rolling uplands to Belleville, the seat of justice of St. Clair county, with its population of nearly one thousand inhabitants; thence through a small settlement called Shiloh six miles farther, situated on the highest point in St. Clair county, and thence six miles farther to Lebanon, from where was reached the destination, which was Looking Glass Prairie. After viewing this the party returned to St. Louis by a more direct westerly route and passed in sight of Monk's Mound on the southern borders of Madison county.





Peck in his *Gazetteer of Illinois*, in 1837, says: "Looking Glass Prairie, a large, rich, beautiful and undulating prairie lying between Silver and Sugar creeks, and on the eastern border of St. Clair county. It commences near the base line, in range six west, and extends northward about twenty miles into Madison county, and is from six to ten miles in width. Few prairies in the state present more eligible situations for farms than this. Extensive settlements are on its borders, and project into its interior."

Let it be remarked in a general way that the Looking Glass Prairie extends from the Post Oaks near New Memphis on the south to the hills near Highland on the north and from Silver Creek on the west to Sugar creek on the east, embracing portions of St. Clair, Clinton and Madison counties.

Sixty-nine years after the visit of Charles Dickens there came to St. Louis a son of his, Alfred Tennyson Dickens. This junior Dickens was received with the utmost cordiality and after several days of visiting it was determined that he be shown the route in Illinois over which the elder Dickens had travelled. For this purpose all the latest and most convenient methods of travel were provided so that nearly every phase of this recent journey stands out in direct contrast with the journey of 1842. The elder Dickens had crossed the Mississippi on a ferry when he was here; a large number of automobiles conveyed the junior Dickens and his party across the Eads bridge which stands as a monument to the skill of the American engineer who spanned the mightiest river of the world. The party accompanying Mr. Alfred Tennyson Dickens was made up of business, professional and literary people of St. Louis, East St. Louis, Belleville and Lebanon, numbering in all about forty.

The first stop was made in East St. Louis, where sixty thousand people now are helping to supply the markets of the world with the products of their factories, work-





shops and slaughter houses, and where sixty-nine years ago Illinoistown, as it was then called, was a mere hamlet, containing a few families. From the automobiles the party alighted near the spot where in days gone by stood a pioneer tavern, from whose proprietor Illinoistown in the early days received the sobriquet of Pap's Town. Here the journey began a little before three o'clock in the afternoon of the twenty-second day of November, 1911, in the splendid palace car known as "The Bluffs" of the Suburban Electric line. The management of the affair was practically under the supervision of the general manager of the suburban system who was with the party and whose generosity and hospitality had placed the car at the disposal of Mr. Dickens and his friends. This mode of travel was in great contrast with the coaches propelled by horses used by the Dickens party in the last century, which were dragged through mud up to the axles. The early time muddy conditions, too, had given way to an oiled roadbed over which the rails of the electric line are laid. About five miles from the starting point a momentary stop was made, long enough to furnish an opportunity to salute an old log cabin which has withstood the wear of time since the first Dickens party watered the horses at its well. This cabin was decorated with an American flag in honor of both visits—that of the father and that of the son. A mile farther we arrived at Edgmont, now a part of East St. Louis, and a populous settlement, which is the successor of the olden French village. Instead of going directly to Belleville the trip was continued along the electric line to Lebanon in order that we might arrive at the Looking Glass Prairie before sundown. We arrived at Lebanon a little after four o'clock in the afternoon and at once the party was taken in automobiles out into the prairie about two miles. The weather conditions, however, were not the most favorable for viewing the landscape as the sky was hazy. The heavens had been somewhat unpropitious all day with now and then a rift in the clouds which allowed the sun



to peep through, but the general cloudiness largely obscured the view so that it was impossible for the son to see as the father had seen "a vast expanse of level ground, unbroken save by one thin line of trees, which scarcely amounted to a scratch upon the great blank; until it met the glowing sky, wherein it seemed to dip, mingling with its rich colors, and mellowing in its distant blue." But he saw a prairie which is now under a high state of cultivation, covered with corn stalks and corn shocks and growing winter wheat and so densely populated that one neighbor can call another across adjoining fields. The father wrote: "We encamped near a solitary log house, for the sake of its water, and dined upon the plain." That log house is gone. Part of the "Mermaid Hotel" at Lebanon, where the father stopped, remains; but that part which contained the dining room has long since been torn away and the sign with its picture of a mermaid rising from the sea is also gone. These changes did not interfere with the refreshment arrangement of our trip. Though we did not dine "upon the plain" nor at the "Mermaid Hotel," yet we were not compelled to go hungry, as the watchfulness of the management saw to it that we were amply provided with a sumptuous spread on board the electric car during its return trip from Lebanon to Edgemont. At Edgemont the car was placed on the main line and the trip was continued to Belleville. Upon arrival, the old "Mansion House" was visited inasmuch as the senior Dickens had been a guest therein sixty-nine years ago. The building remains intact so that the junior had the satisfaction of seeing at least one landmark that had remained practically undisturbed all these years whilst a thriving city of twenty-one thousand people has grown up around it. The Historical Association of St. Clair county has in contemplation the affixing of a tablet to mark this historic site. A public reception was tendered Mr. Dickens and party at the court house, where a vast concourse of people came and saw and heard and shook by the hand





the guest of the occasion. This reception was under the auspices of the Dickens Club and the Commercial Club of Belleville and the Historical Association of St. Clair county. A greeting on parchment, beautifully lettered, was tendered him by the Historical Association and a handsomely bound volume of views of Greater Belleville was presented by the Commercial Club. At about nine o'clock in the evening of November 22, 1911, Mr. Dickens started back to St. Louis, and bade a hearty farewell to the scenes he had visited in Illinois, where his distinguished father had been during our primitive period. The son was impressed with the mighty changes and was charmed with the hospitality accorded him.

Alfred Tennyson Dickens, as he came to us, is a medium sized man, of medium weight, with ruddy complexion, hair and mustache tinged with the gray of sixty-seven winters, clear eyes, expressive and kindly in expression, dresses neatly but not gaudily, is agreeable and easy of manner, has a cordial handshake and is a companionable gentleman. In private and in public he comported himself with true dignity, coupled however, with affability. On the platform he is a splendid entertainer. All in all, our visitor to Illinois was thrice welcome.\*

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\* Alfred Tennyson Dickens, of whose visit to Illinois the above account is given, died suddenly in New York City, Jan. 2, 1912.



## DOCTOR JAMES D. ROBINSON.

By Dr. J. F. Snyder.

One day in the early spring of 1840 the daily four-horse stage coach, carrying the mail on the route from St. Louis to Vincennes, drew up, as usual, at the hotel on the public square in Belleville, Ill.; and of the several passengers who alighted from it, one was a young man, a total stranger, who seemed glad that he had reached his journey's end. On the hotel register he wrote, in a free, business-like hand, "Charles Mount, New York City," as his name and address. Telling Jake Knoebel, the landlord, that he would probably remain there some time, he asked for a comfortable room, well lighted and heated, and not higher up than the second floor, which was assigned to him, and into it his capacious trunk and other baggage were soon snugly stowed. Having the evident faculty for accommodating himself to his environments, he seemed at once to feel quite at home in his new quarters, and very favorably disposed to the town and its people. He was not bothered with excessive diffidence or bashfulness; neither was he morose, exclusive, or tongue-tied; but, being what is now known as a "good mixer," it was not long before he was on the best of terms with the most prominent men of the place.

Concerning himself, he told his newly-found acquaintances that he was born and raised in a town (which he was careful not to name) in western Massachusetts; and having recently graduated at Yale College—a fact verified by the diploma he exhibited from that institution—he had concluded to gratify a keen desire, long entertained, to visit the great West, of which he had heard and read so much, before selecting a profession or settling down





in any permanent business occupation. He was, therefore, here merely to see the country. Apparently well supplied with money, he paid cash for all that he bought or received, was liberal in his expenditures, but not profligate or extravagant.

Charley Mount, then 23 years old, was, in every respect, a remarkably prepossessing young man. He was 5 feet, 7 inches in height, perfectly proportioned, weighing perhaps 140 pounds, and his black, wavy hair surmounted a handsome beardless face to which the sparkling, dark eyes gave an expression of intelligent animation. His hands and feet were small and well-shaped—a feminine feature that gave rise, in certain quarters, to the suspicion that he was a girl masquerading in male attire. That notion was strengthened by his exceptional habits—abstaining totally from the use of liquor, tobacco, and vulgar or profane language. He was a Chesterfield in manners and deportment, affable and friendly in disposition and refined and cultured in conversation. His clothes, of fine texture, fitted perfectly, and he was invariably neat and clean; yet there was about him no affectation of the fop or dandy, but the easy bearing of the well-bred gentleman.

Among the guests of the Belleville House at the time Charley Mount arrived there, was an Irish lawyer, a generous, big-hearted bachelor 30 years of age, who had recently changed his place of residence from Kaskaskia to become a member of the Belleville bar. His name was James Shields—the same who in later years was a general in two wars, and had the unique distinction of representing three different states in the United States Senate. Notwithstanding the disparity of seven years in their ages, and also some disparity in their personal habits, a mutual attraction at once drew the lawyer and the young stranger together in bonds of warm friendship. In a brief space of time they both enjoyed immense popularity, particularly in the younger stratum of Belleville



society; were much admired by the young ladies, and became conspicuous figures in all their dancing parties and other social gatherings.

In the northwest corner of the public square was a small two-room brick house—one room behind the other—built there in 1835 by Adam W. Snyder for a law office; and after him it continued for many years to serve that purpose for several other lawyers who gained high prominence in the legal and political annals of the state. Col. Snyder, in failing health, had retired from the practice of law, but still retained that building as his political headquarters, passing some time there daily when the weather permitted. When abandoning the active work of his profession, he installed there Gustavus Koerner (his late partner) and James Shields, who had entered into partnership, as his successors. And that law office was the haunt where Charley Mount whiled away many of his leisure hours, though he frequently visited the offices of the other town lawyers, and also of the doctors. When he came to Belleville the memorable “coon-skin and hard cider” political campaign had commenced and was rapidly gaining momentum in popular interest and excitement. On the 4th of December, 1839, the national Whig convention at Harrisburg, Pa., had chosen Wm. Henry Harrison as the candidate of that party for the presidency, and John Tyler for vice president. Martin Van Buren, then president, was the candidate of the Democrats, though not until the 5th of May, 1840, was he unanimously nominated to succeed himself by his party’s convention at Baltimore. State and all local issues were ignored, and the fierce contest was waged altogether on national and personal questions.

Since 1834 the population of St. Clair county had annually gained large accessions from the incoming German immigration. And all of that “element” who acquired the right of suffrage in six months’ time or less, guided by Koerner and Snyder, voted the Democratic ticket as





a unit. Hence, St. Clair county was one of the most important Democratic strongholds in the State, and one the Whigs especially desired to overcome. As the campaign progressed the enthusiasm of both parties became a wild frenzy. The Whigs particularly, who had never yet elected a president, and who had at the last general election run the Democrats so closely in Illinois, brought every agency to bear that ingenuity could suggest and money provide to carry this State. In Belleville, as everywhere else throughout the country, their almost continuous succession of the most extravagant pageants, parades and mass meetings kept up the turmoil at fever heat for months, answered, in some measure, with as noisy and absurd demonstrations by the Democrats.

In the Whig parades the predominant emblems, intended to represent the pioneer life and career of their candidate, Gen. Harrison, were canoes, yawls, skiffs, scows and log cabins, mounted on wheels, embellished with coon and deer skins—live coons, also, in many instances—barrels of hard cider, gourds, camping outfits, and profusion of flags and banners. Fortunately the torchlight accompaniment had not been invented. Brass bands were scarce, and in their stead fifes, drums, fiddles, with an occasional French horn, or trumpet, provided the music. Campaign songs, in every key and note, in all places and at all times, fretted the air and made life a prolonged misery. As a sample, a favorite ode of the Whigs commenced thus:

“We do not wish Van Buren dead,  
Nor wish he had a broken head;  
But if he once were dead and gone  
We should not wish him to return.

In Abraham’s bosom may he lie,  
And over hell may Abraham fly;  
Then open wide his roundabout  
And let Van Buren tumble out.”



The Democrats retaliated with melodies reciting how Tecumseh was killed by Col. Dick Johnson, of Kentucky, a Democrat; and how Gen. Harrison hid under a big soap kettle during the battle of Tippecanoe. At Belleville, all through the months of June and July, mass meetings, now called "rallies," were held by both parties, with all sensational accompaniments, every few days. The few daily newspapers then published had not learned the knack, possessed by the press of today, of reporting speeches in full, thereby dispensing political knowledge and wisdom to the people. Consequently, the people depended for knowledge of public affairs upon the party orators, which insured to every advertised speaker a satisfactory and attentive audience. Both parties called to their aid their best local debators and such of wider fame that could be secured. The rostrums of the Democrats were supplied by Governor Reynolds, candidate for Congress; Col. Snyder, candidate for the State Senate and presidential elector; Lyman Trumbull, candidate for the Legislature; Koerner, Shields and other local lawyers, with occasional addition of Dr. Bissell of Monroe county, candidate there for the Legislature; Judge Breese, Sam McRoberts, John Wentworth, Stephen A. Douglas, Senator Thos. H. Benton of Missouri, and other "foreign" party leaders of more or less note.

Bob Smith, of Alton, came down one day and addressed the Belleville multitude. He had twice represented Madison county in the Legislature, was a rattling, strong stump orator, and had Congressional aspirations, justly claiming that as St. Clair county had had the Congressman of that (the First) district continuously since Joe Duncan's last term, it would be no more than fair to let Madison, the next strongest Democratic county in the district, have it a while. His speech was boisterously applauded by the large concourse of people who listened to him.





While Smith was making "the boys" cheer and yell, Gov. Reynolds stood on the outskirts of the crowd in scowling mood, "viewing with alarm" Bob's rising popularity, apprehensive that it would seal his official doom—as it did; for the first Democratic Congressional convention held in that district, in 1842, nominated Bob Smith for the next term and thereby relegated the Old Ranger to private life. While the governor was standing there listening, with illy-disguised disgust, to Smith, a teacher of the county schools, named Tam—a loud-talking, brazen fellow, who in conversation made use of the biggest words in the dictionary, generally inappropriately, and who had ambition to run for office—approached him and said: "Governor. I would like mighty well to discourse to these people on the magnitudinous questions of the day. Do you think if I announced an appointment to speak here on a specific date they would come to hear me?" "Of course they would," answered Reynolds, "they would turn out to a man; for, as a rule, the d—der the fool to listen to the bigger the crowd." Mr. Tam didn't speak, but after the election moved to Arkansas where he later attained considerable prominence.

The Belleville Whigs also enlisted a strong contingent of speakers to advocate their cause and give aid and comfort to their local candidates. Among the most able and effective of them were A. P. Field, then Secretary of State; E. D. Baker, Cyrus Edwards, Ex-Gov. Duncan, U. F. Linder, John J. Hardin, John Hogan, Jos. Gillespie, and last, but not the least, Abraham Lincoln, a candidate for the Legislature in Sangamon county. Even then Lincoln was known as the "Rail Splitter," and he certainly looked it. Gov. Koerner, writing of that period, says: "In point of melody of voice and graceful delivery, though not in argument, most all the other speakers surpassed him. It was the first time I saw Mr. Lincoln. It must be said that his appearance was not very prepossessing. His exceedingly tall and very angular form



made his movements rather awkward. Nor were his features, when he was not animated, pleasant, owing principally to his high cheek bones. His complexion had no roseate hue of health, but was then rather bilious, and, when not speaking, his face seemed to be overshadowed with melancholy thoughts. I observed him closely, thought I saw a good deal of intellect in him, while his looks were genial and kind. I did not believe, however, that he had much reserve will power. No one in the crowd would have dreamed that he was one day to be their President, and finally lead his people through the greatest crisis it had seen since the Revolutionary war.”\*

When the exercises were over on the day Mr. Lincoln spoke, he and Joseph Gillespie boldly invaded the enemy's camp. That is, they called on Col. Snyder at his home. Lincoln and Snyder were together as captains in the Black Hawk war, and Judge Gillespie was a private in Captain Snyder's company. Their visit was exceedingly pleasant to all. After a little jocular allusion to the existing political situation, their conversation was altogether reminiscent, and in the spirit of cordial familiar friendship.

Charley Mount had perhaps never given the subject of politics a serious thought before coming to Illinois. Influenced by his associates here, however, he was soon a rampant “Locofoco,” as the Whigs, in derision, termed the Democrats. He was not a speaker, but accompanied Shields, Koerner, and others, on their precinct appointments, applauded them vociferously, joined in singing the campaign songs and wrote flaming reports of their meetings to the party newspapers.

At the election only six states cast their electoral votes for Van Buren, one of which was Illinois. Harrison and Tyler were elected, but it proved to be a barren victory. In this State the Democrats made almost a clean sweep,

\* *Memoirs of Gustave Koerner, 1809-1890. Vol. I, pp. 443-444. Pub. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1909.*





securing two of the three Congressmen and both houses of the Legislature; but the Whigs elected Gillespie in Madison, and Lincoln in Sangamon, to the Legislature, and John T. Stuart to Congress in the third district.

In the intervals of political engagements at Belleville, both Charley Mount and Shields found time to fall in love with their landlord's charming daughter. Charley, the most sentimental of the two, raved about her, styling her "angelic," etc., and wrote verses about her, which she probably never saw. Mr. Knoebel, a very quiet man of few words, but much strong, practical common sense, would, of course, never have permitted his daughter to marry either of them, regarding them as mere adventurers having no fixed place of abode or visible property assets. The girl seems to have shared her father's views in that matter, and abruptly ended their romance by marrying Mr. Neuhoff, a wealthy German a few years older than herself, and not quite the Adonis in personal graces that Charley Mount was, but one of Belleville's most enterprising and substantial citizens.

The newly elected Twelfth General Assembly, largely Democratic in both houses, early in the session elected James Shields to the position of State Auditor. Going to Springfield to enter upon the duties of his office, he took Charley Mount along and installed him as his chief clerk. In a social point of view Belleville's loss in that move was the State capital's gain. In the second year of the new auditor's incumbency, 1842, occurred the famous Shields-Lincoln embroilment wherein the former challenged the latter to mortal combat. Shields selected John D. Whiteside, late State Treasurer, for his second, because of that gentleman's political prominence and the martial prestige of his name. But Charley Mount pluckily stood by him in that fearful ordeal, stating afterwards that he had determined to avenge the death of his Hibernian friend in case he fell, perforated by the broad sword of the future immortal Emancipator. Fortunately



for the nation the ludicrous affair was adjusted without bloodshed, and shortly thereafter Charley Mount abruptly resigned his clerkship and returned to the East.

Nothing more was heard of him until early in 1847, the second year of the Mexican war, when he again suddenly appeared in Belleville, the same jovial, genial fellow, only looking more manly and mature, his handsome face adorned with an elegant black mustache. But he had undergone a strange transformation. He was no longer Charles Mount, but Dr. James D. Robinson, the name he inscribed on the hotel register. In explanation of that surprising metamorphosis he said an old bachelor uncle, named James D. Robinson, who many years before had migrated from Scotland to New England, and there accumulated a large fortune, learning of his (Charley's) purposeless stay in the West, wrote to him to return to his eastern home and study for a profession, promising, if he would do so, to defray all his expenses; and further proposed if he would legally assume his name—James D. Robinson—he would constitute him his heir. He said he gladly accepted that offer, immediately went back to his home, had his name changed by the court, chose the medical profession, and his uncle liberally supplied him with funds until his graduation at the best medical college in New York. But unfortunately about that time the old gentleman suddenly died without having executed a last will and testament, and the law distributed his wealth among his nearest of kin; and he, Dr. Jas. D. Robinson, the heir presumptive, was left to continue the inevitable struggle.

After a brief visit he returned to the East. He had come, it was learned, to secure the recommendations of influential friends in Illinois in support of his application for a federal appointment in the medical staff of the volunteer army. In that he was successful, receiving from President Polk the position of assistant surgeon of Col. E. W. B. Newby's regiment, mustered into the service, at





Alton, June 8, 1847. In that regiment was a company from Belleville, of which Wash Hook was captain, Wm. H. Snyder first lieutenant and regimental adjutant, and Enoch Luckey second lieutenant, with all of whom the doctor was previously well acquainted; and he shared with them the hardships and glory (?) of their campaign in New Mexico and the Navajo country. He was highly esteemed by all the command, proving to be a skillful surgeon and able physician, invariably attentive, kind and sympathetic in the discharge of his duties. Before the regiment's term of service expired he was ordered to New York City for service in a government hospital there.

Lost then to his Illinois friends, he was no more heard of until one day in the spring of 1856 he unexpectedly again alighted from the stage coach in Belleville. To those interested in his history he told that when relieved from hospital duty, after the war closed, he practiced medicine awhile in New York City. Then he had accepted the position of physician on the vessels of the Cunard line of steamships, and in that capacity, with ample salary, had crossed and recrossed the Atlantic for some years, passing his vacations in England, Scotland, and various parts of the continent. Tiring of that service, and longing for the freedom and charm of the West, he relinquished his post on the briny deep and came to settle down permanently in Illinois. He had intended to locate in Belleville, but the profession there being then, as now, so wretchedly overcrowded, he went to Illinois-town (now East St. Louis) and established himself. From the start he was successful. Though the country was in a ferment of excitement about the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he paid no attention to politics, devoting the little leisure he had to the pursuits of literature. In an old scrap book here is a "Carrier's New Year's Address" of the *Belleville Advocate's* "Printer's Devil," of Jan. 1, 1857, inserted in the paper with this comment by the editor: "*New Year's Address*.—The address of our



carrier is of such poetic merit that we are induced to give it to all our readers. We are indebted for it to the skillful and accomplished pen of Dr. James D. Robinson of Illinois town."

As a place for residence in those days Illinoistown was not altogether an Elysium, but a decidedly "hard" town. That fact, and his increasing acquaintance and business on the other side of the river, prompted Dr. Robinson to move over to St. Louis in the early days of 1858, and there establish his office a few blocks west of the Planters' House. Another inducement for him to change his location was his marriage, about that time, to Miss Rachael Addis, a young lady of striking beauty of form and features, said, by gossips, to be a Jewess who had renounced her faith for a career on the stage. Rumors were whispered that her reputation was not altogether unclouded, and, later, vague reports of infelicity in their domestic life were heard.

The success of Dr. Robinson was marvelous. Devoting but a few hours daily to office practice, he was a familiar figure on the streets of the city, seated in his fine buggy, driving a spirited horse, in serving a constantly widening circle of resident patrons. One day in the autumn of 1858, the doctor's equipage came down the street, and the horse, as long accustomed, stopped at his post in front of the office door. Directly some passerby noticed that the horse was not hitched to his post as usual, and the doctor, pale and motionless, retained his seat in the buggy. Closer inspection revealed the startling fact that he was dead, and, on further investigation, a small empty vial emitting the unmistakable odor of prussic acid, found on the floor of the buggy at his feet, conclusively indicated that he had deliberately committed suicide.

Early the next morning a stranger arrived in St. Louis from the East, in search of Dr. Robinson, and from him the true history of the doctor's life was learned. His name from his birth, was James D. Robinson, as was also





that of his father. The rich Scotch uncle, who promised to make him his heir on condition that he would change his name, was a myth of his own creation, and never existed. In his childhood both his parents died, leaving him an orphan with but a limited patrimony. Precocious, studious, and bent on acquiring a classic education, he had exhausted all his means at the beginning of his senior year at Yale, and, it seemed, would be compelled to abandon the object of his ambition. But a wealthy maiden lady of his native village, several years older than himself, captivated by his handsome face and figure and polished manners, had fallen violently in love with him. He reciprocated her passion, or pretended to, and they were married. She gave him all the funds necessary to complete his course at the university, then installed him in luxuriant ease in her elegant home.

There could be but little harmony in a pair who differed so radically in every respect as they did. He was not wayward, ill-natured, or inclined to dissipation, but fond of adventure, amusements, gay, jovial society, and rather skeptical regarding some of the sublime truths of the sacred scriptures. She was staid and sedate in disposition, of serious, ascetic temperament, rigidly pious, and an orthodox Christian in mortal dread of sin and Satan. Nevertheless she adored him, and undertook to convert him to her puritanical notions. But the task was hopeless. Impatient of restraint, and longing to see the great west, he forged her name to a check for quite a sum of her money; then, as Charley Mount, came to Belleville. He was there, in the frontier settlements, before the introduction of railroads and telegraphs, as safe from detection as fugitive criminals were in Texas.

Clerical work in the auditor's office failed to satisfy his aspirations, as he had arrived at the age when, he thought, he should have a higher and more stable life vocation. He desired to enter the medical profession, and saw but one way to compass that end. That way he at



once adopted by returning to his wife, meek and repentant, and throwing himself upon her mercy. Woman-like, she forgave the wrong he had committed, and defrayed all his expenses through a full course of study at a New York medical college. Graduated there, he commenced the practice of his new profession at his boyhood home. For a while all went well, but again his wife's strict discipline grew very irksome. He was meditating schemes for escaping from it when, fortunately, the Mexican war presented the opportunity. It was some time before he could convince his wife that patriotism and honor demanded he should obey his country's call in its hour of peril. Gaining her consent at length, he joyfully went with Col. Newby's regiment over the old Santa Fe trail.

When relieved of hospital service at New York he made a brief tour of Europe, and, returning to the New England village, resumed his professional work, which he very probably continued until 1856, when he again escaped from his connubial thralldom and came west.

The stranger from the East who came in quest of him was a civil officer and also a relative of his wife. He was provided with a requisition from the Governor of Massachusetts for the doctor's arrest and extradition; but finding him dead declined to make any explanation of the offense he had committed. It was presumably a felony, perhaps another forgery. By some means the doctor learned that a minion of the law was coming for him. Rather than be taken back to his birthplace a prisoner, and face the disgrace of prosecution for bigamy and a yet graver criminal charge, and, it may be, unhappy in his second marital relations, he sought relief in self-imposed death. The officer executed his writ by taking his prisoner's dead body back to the old Bay state and laying it in a grave in the village cemetery alongside those of his parents.





## HISTORIC SITES AND SCENES IN RANDOLPH COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

OLD KASKASKIA, THE DROWNED CITY; FORT GAGE AND THE  
TRACES OF OLD FORT CHARTRES, NEAR PRAIRIE DU  
ROCHER. THE KASKASKIA COMMONS AND  
THE RECENT DECISION OF THE  
ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT.

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By Rev. W. M. Butler, Sparta, Illinois.

Edgar Allen Poe sings of a wonderful city in the sea; but old Kaskaskia, once a city of seven thousand population, a commercial center, and the gay capital of the State of Illinois has passed like a dream city. The stranger on "Kaskia" island would not suspect that he was passing through the limits of a city that was old before Pittsburgh was founded; a city rivaled only by New Orleans in the Mississippi valley and one whose glory had commenced to fade ere the names of St. Louis and Chicago were known. Corn and wheat fields interspersed with truck patches now cover the sites where once stood the mansions of the Bonds and Morrisons and Edgars. Certain partly defined paths slightly depressed below the level of the fields on either hand mark the courses of streets once thronged by prosperous traders and by ladies whose costumes rivaled those of Paris. A few scattered farm houses are still to be found here and there on the western site of old Kaskaskia, but the occupants are ready to leave them at the first warning of a flood. An occasional descendant of the early French settlers remains and will indicate to the curious stranger the few stones which alone mark the foundation of the old State House or a few pieces of brick, all that is left of Randolph county's first court house.



The waters of the Mississippi now cover the sites of churches and buildings once the rival of the structures of Montreal and Quebec and of a cemetery where once rested the remains of men and women well known in their generation; the LaChappelles, the Derousses, the Bouchers, the Montbruns, the St. Vrains, the Danies, the Charlesvilles, the Bienvennes, the Buyats, the Pagets, the Langlois, the St. Gemme, the Novals and others who could trace their descent from the nobility of France and whose ancestors may have settled in the Peninsula of Kaskaskia about the time the intrepid LaSalle was endeavoring to find the mouth of the Mississippi; that is sometime between 1685 and 1700.

The General Edgar mansion was one of the finest residences in Kaskaskia. It stood on Elm street. A reception to General Lafayette was given in its parlors in 1825. Not a trace of it can be seen now. Here John Doyle, a soldier under Clark taught school and his name deserves to be remembered for it is believed that he was the first school teacher in Illinois. Here stood William Morrison's great store. His trade extended to Pittsburgh, to New Orleans, to Prairie Du Chien, and to the Rocky Mountains. His fine stone house on Elm street, built in 1801, was considered the best in the Illinois country. He died in 1837, and was buried in the old grave yard.

Pierre Menard, one of the most distinguished and worthy citizens of Kaskaskia, was born at Quebec in 1767, and came to Kaskaskia in 1790. He opened a store and soon became a successful Indian trader. He was elected one of the representatives from Randolph county to the Legislature of the Indiana territory, meeting at Vincennes in 1803. He was a member of each Territorial Legislature from 1812 to the organization of the State in 1818. He was the first Lieutenant Governor of the State. His name is perpetuated in "Menard" county, which was named after him.





His grandson, Peter Menard, now lives on the side of the bluff across the river from old Kaskaskia, and the home of the grandfather, Pierre Menard, believed to be one of the oldest houses in the State of Illinois, stands on the same side of the river, a little farther south. It is now owned and occupied by the Linn brothers, who affirm that it remains practically as it was nearly a century ago. It is a beautiful and comfortable mansion and is likely to remain after many modern structures have disappeared.

The peninsula of Kaskaskia has been visited, at irregular intervals, by many disastrous floods of the Mississippi. The greatest of these was that of 1844, when the waters rose to the second story of the highest buildings, and a steamboat came down the river and carried away the nuns from the old convent. From that time the prosperity of Old Kaskaskia rapidly declined. The work of destruction was completed in 1881, when the Mississippi cut a new channel across the northern end of the peninsula into the Okaw river, and now the Father of Waters rolls a yellow flood where Kaskaskia once was. A city of oblivion, as are Thebes and Nineveh, and in a few more years, as the river changes its course, and all the descendants of the old inhabitants pass away, it is probable that all trace of it will have vanished forever and no one can tell where it stood. Such will be the case unless the State takes action, and that soon.

The State of Illinois has erected a monument, at a cost of ten thousand dollars on the eastern bluff, opposite the island, to the memory of the early settlers. An appropriation was also made for the removal of all the remains from the old cemetery. Many of the old grave stones and markers were also preserved and have been used in the new cemetery. The oldest inscription noted was that of H. Dieder, who died July 5, 1740, aged 55. The lines of Fort Gage on the top of the eastern bluff overlooking "Kaskia" island, may still be traced. It was in the shape of a parallelogram, with block houses at two



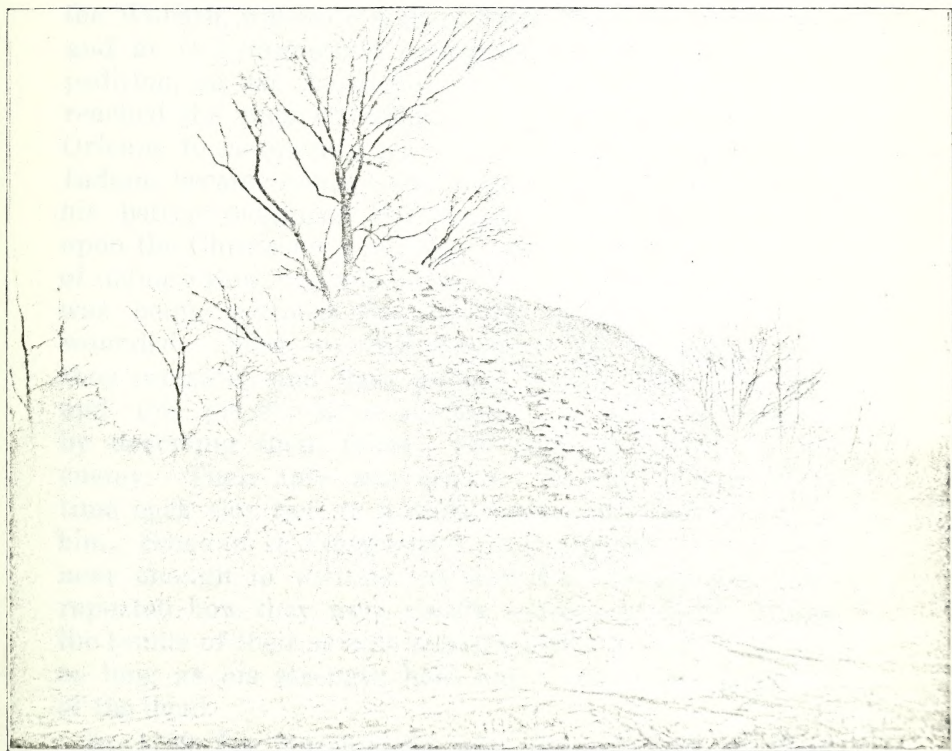
corners. It covered about one and one-half acres. Its site is now overgrown with forest trees. It was probably occupied by the British in 1765 and by the Americans under Gen. George Rogers Clark in 1778. The recent decision of the Illinois Supreme Court in the Kaskaskia Commons case, remanding the same to the Circuit Court for retrial is an echo of those far off days when French settlers introduced the leading features of French village and feudal life into the valley of the Mississippi. For, in 1725, Louis XV, king of France, made a grant of commons to the inhabitants of Kaskaskia. This common land extended southward to the junction of the Okaw with the Mississippi river. Each family of the village enjoyed the privilege of cultivating a certain portion of the commons and without doubt this arrangement tended to alleviate, if it did not eliminate, the evils of poverty. A similar grant of commons was made to the inhabitants of Prairie Du Rocher in 1743 by Delaloire Flancourt, the civil judge at Fort Chartres. The latter was opened to purchasers in 1849 by act of Congress.

The visitor of today can see the ridges of earth and stone which mark the location of the ancient walls of old Fort Chartres. The magazine alone remains in tolerable preservation to mark the spot where stood at one time the strongest fortress in America, except Quebec, costing the French government, first and last, at least one million dollars.

Fort Chartres was seventeen miles northwest of Kaskaskia on the east bank of the Mississippi, and about a mile from the river. It was erected in the year 1718 under the direction of Boisbriant, its first commandant and first governor of Upper Louisiana. The first structure was of wood. It was named after the son of the regent of France, the duc De Chartres. It stood about three miles from the present village of Prairie Du Rocher, which traces its history back to 1722.







Remains of Powder Magazine, Ft. Chartres.



In 1732 M. D'Artaguettes was commandant at Fort Chartres. In 1736 he led an expedition against the Chickasaws on the lower Mississippi. His little army of fifty Frenchmen was reinforced by a thousand friendly Indians of the Kaskaskia and Cahokia tribes. The Chevalier Vincennes, commandant at the French post on the Wabash, was on a visit at Fort Chartres at the time, and at D'Artaguettes's invitation, accompanied the expedition, as did the Jesuit priest, Father Senat. They reached the enemy's country, but the forces from New Orleans to co-operate with them failed to arrive. The Indians became restless and threatened to return. Against his better judgment D'Artaguettes ordered an attack upon the Chickasaw positions. Two of the enemy's lines of defense were taken in quick succession, but as the third was being stormed the French leader was severely wounded. This so disheartened his followers that they retreated and their gallant leader, with Vincennes and the priest, who disdained to save themselves by deserting their friend, fell into the hands of the enemy. Their fate was sealed. For in a very short time each was tied to a stake and a fire kindled about him. Some of D'Artaguettes's men ventured to approach near enough to witness the horrible torture and later reported how they were slowly roasted to death amidst the taunts of their savage captors, while the priest, Senat, as long as his strength held out chanted the Requiem of the dead.

In 1739 La Bussioniere was commandant at Fort Chartres. In conjunction with Bienville and a force of three hundred Indians he also led an unsuccessful expedition against the Chickasaws. His men suffered terribly from fever and famine, but in the following spring he seems to have accomplished what force of arms had heretofore failed to do, and the Chickasaws joined the allies of France. The decade from 1740 to 1750 marked the high tide of prosperity for Fort Chartres, Kaskaskia and the





Mississippi bottoms. Cargoes of pork, cotton, tallow and hides were sent down the river, thence to France. Many French Canadians exchanged the rigors of the north for the sunny climate and fertile soil of the Mississippi. In those days "all roads lead to Fort Chartres" was a common saying.

In 1750 the Chevalier Macarty was appointed commandant. Under his supervision the fort was rebuilt of stone and iron. Some of the stone was taken from the Missouri side of the river, and the remainder from the adjacent eastern bluff. It covered about four acres and was in the shape of an irregular quadrangle whose sides were about four hundred and ninety feet in length. The walls were two feet thick, pierced at intervals with loop holes for the use of riflemen, and two port holes for cannon in the facies and in the flanks of each bastion. It was surrounded by a ditch, never entirely completed, and was entered through a handsome rustic gate. Within the walls was a barbette for the men to stand on when firing through the loop holes. The buildings within the enclosure were a powder magazine, as seen in the accompanying illustration, a bake house, a prison, commandant's house, commissary's house, a guard house, a store house, a vaulted cellar, a barracks for the men, officers' quarters and a small chapel. The fort was, until 1765, the center of French rule in Upper Louisiana. From its gateway went forth reinforcements for Fort Duquesne and the defeat of Braddock in 1755. It was the depot for troops and military supplies of all kinds throughout the long struggle between France and England for the possession of this country; a struggle which ended only with the defeat and death of the intrepid Montcalm in 1759 on the heights of Quebec.

Hither the renowned Indian chieftain, "Pontiac," came once and again to obtain supplies during his well nigh successful conspiracy of 1763. Many a gay revel was held within its walls in the old days. Its commandants



were noted for courtesy and hospitality and companies of richly dressed ladies and officers, resplendent in white uniforms, rode forth to enjoy the beautiful scenery or to hunt in the adjacent forests. On Oct. 10, 1765, the Lilies of France were supplanted by the Union jack. Great Britain was then the master of this region and the French regime was at an end. Most of the inhabitants of the nearby village of St. Anne removed to the west side of the Mississippi, ignorant that this region had been ceded to Spain by a secret treaty. In 1756 the river was within a half mile of the fort. By 1760 only eighty yards intervened; and during the freshet of 1772 the western wall and two bastions were swept away. At that time the British garrison removed to Fort Gage.

The march of General George Rogers Clark with his little army of Virginians, called "The Long Knives," from Fort Massac, on the Ohio river, one hundred and twenty miles distant, against Kaskaskia, and his strategy in seizing the person of Rocheblave, the renegade Frenchman, commandant at Fort Gage, and his bloodless capture of the town and Fort was an event of first class historical importance. This was July 4, 1778. By Feb. 24, 1779, he had made a terrible winter march across southern Illinois and captured Fort Sackville, later known as "Vincennes," on the Wabash, thus securing the northwest territory to the Americans and assuring all the inhabitants irrespective of their race, nationality and creed, the priceless blessings of civil and religious liberty, and the fruits of honest industry. The duel between Shadrach Bond and Rice Jones and the feud growing out of it, resulting in the assassination of Jones by Doctor Dunlap in Old Kaskaskia, is one of the many dramatic incidents of early Illinois history. The finding of the Old Kaskaskia records at Chester, Illinois, in 1905, was an important historical discovery. They were in three large sacks in the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court. They were





numbered from one to two thousand nine hundred and fifty and covered the period from 1720 to 1790. They are dry legal documents for the most part, made up of notarial instruments drawn up at Fort Chartres and Kaskaskia, but throw an interesting side light on a period of American history gone never to return.

The State Historical Library proposes to compile and bind them that their contents may be available to all students of history.

Mary Hartwell Catherwood, in her "Old Kaskaskia," a delightful little romance of two hundred pages, has given us a graphic and interesting picture of life in Old Kaskaskia in the early part of the previous century. "Old Kaskia Days," by Elizabeth Holbrook, a Randolph county girl, is a very interesting story and adheres pretty closely to the history from 1795 to 1844. Miss Holbrook tells us of the Hermit of St. Anne in the ruins of Old Fort Chartres. For a time the site of the old fort was a wilderness. The river resumed its original channel long ago. The stone has been removed by the farmers of the neighborhood and used by them for buildings and foundations. For awhile superstitious people in its neighborhood who had the hardihood to pass that way at night claimed to see strange lights and to hear "uncanny" sounds in the old ruins. Its reputation was almost equal to that of Kirk Alloway as a haunted place, and many a luckless Tam O Shanter returning from sampling the red wines of Prairie Du Rocher spurred his horse to utmost speed at the sight of the gloomy shades hovering over the old ruined fort.

The reader will be surprised to learn that there was also a rumor started by colored people and believed by a few white people for a time that the old Menard House was also haunted.

Like the myths and legends that cling like ivy about all old places, is the story of buried treasure within the walls of Old Fort Chartres; and some have had faith enough to



dig for this treasure with the usual result of nothing to reward them for their trouble. Of a similar nature was the story of arms and ammunition thrown into its wells and cisterns when the French surrendered it to the British in 1765. Boisbriant, D'Artagnette, La Bussioniere, Macarty, De Villiers and Bellerive no longer command at Fort Chartres; and Wilkins, Rochblave and Clark no longer review their guards at Fort Gage. Of its officers and soldiers may be said:

"Their bones are dust,  
Their swords are rust.  
Their souls are with  
Their God I trust."

In the end there is little doubt that the courts will order the sale at equitable prices of all the Kaskaskia commons.

The railroad has entered the village of Prairie Du Rocher and its advent is slowly working a change in the quaint little French town. The shriek of the locomotive has penetrated the solitude of Old Fort Chartres and American push and energy have supplanted French feudalism. A bill was passed by the last Legislature appropriating five thousand dollars for the purpose of purchasing the site of Fort Chartres and converting it into a State park. Owing to an error in the form of the bill making this appropriation and constituting the board of management, the Governor was obliged to veto the bill. The next Legislature may take up the matter.

The Old Settlers' Association of Randolph County, at its recent meeting at Sparta, Illinois, took steps looking toward action by the national Congress for an appropriation to commemorate both the sites of Fort Gage and Fort Chartres. Mr. Lewis Wehrheim, of Ellis Grove, is the president of the association, and a competent committee will be appointed to present the matter to the Rep-





representatives in Congress from southern Illinois. Whether by the State or the nation, all thoughtful people agree that something should be done and that speedily to rescue these historic sites from oblivion. Such action would be the climax of the two centuries of achievement. A reminder of King Arthur's dying words:

"The old order changeth yielding place to new."





Indian Statue Near Oregon, Illinois.  
Lorado Taft, Sculptor.





## THE INDIAN STATUE, NEAR OREGON, ILLINOIS.

By Richard V. Carpenter, Belvidere, Illinois.

One of the most noteworthy examples of private enterprise for public good along historical lines is the Indian statue erected near Oregon, Illinois, by Lorado Taft.

Nearly seventy years ago (in July, 1843), a woman possessing one of the most poetic and artistic minds that this country has produced, spent a few days dreaming and writing on the beautiful bluff that rises almost from the water's edge on the bank of the Rock River about three miles northerly from the city of Oregon. Here, on the edge of the bluff is a curious tree called the "Eagle's Nest," and from the foot of the ledge a cold, clear spring gushes out and flows into the river. Since Margaret Fuller's visit this has been called Ganymede Spring. Out in the river is an island, which has been given her name. For some years past on this same bluff, there have gathered during the summer, a number of other men and women, whose love of beauty and ability in art has been ably set forth, not in words, but by the brush and the chisel. Among them is Lorado Taft, whose fame as a sculptor is world wide. Their cottages, picturesquely hugging the top and sides of the bluff, reflect the artistic abilities of the owners. This little settlement is known as the "Artists' Colony." The Indian statue stands between the colony and the city.

Long before Margaret Fuller and the artists came to love this spot, the Indian made it his home. While in some ways fierce and ignoble, his knowledge of the secrets and beauties of nature exceeded that of most white men, and he had many qualities we admire. As is well known,



this is the Black Hawk country, and the statue is usually called by that warrior's name. But it was, in fact, not intended to represent any one Indian, but simply "*The Indian*," to typify that race, which, from the time of Black Hawk back to the dawn of American history, when the receding glaciers left this bluff as a watch tower over the broad plain in front, had loved and habited this spot.

The manner of making this statue was most interesting, and for explanations as to the details, we are indebted to the sculptor himself. Mr. Taft made his first model life size, or to be exact, six feet in height. The final model was enlarged to seven times this size by an ingenious machine devised by Mr. John G. Prashun, who had charge of the work from this point. The framework of the great figure consisted first of large timbers, then of smaller lumber placed to support folds of drapery, etc. When the smaller forms were finally perfected in wood, the framework was covered over with "chicken netting." This surface was in turn covered with burlap, which was solidified by a coat of plaster of Paris. The head, meantime, had been modeled in clay with even greater precision of measurement, and cast in plaster by the ordinary method. This was then elevated to its position, and the model stood complete, in flimsy material to be sure, but apparently a solid mass. Next followed the even more formidable task of making a plaster mould over the whole. The mould was made about four inches thick of plaster and fibre and strongly supported by braces which became part of the scaffolding as the work progressed. Upon its completion the entire model was torn down and taken out; timber, laths, chicken netting and burlap. Then followed the filling of the mould as in plaster casting, excepting that in this case the heavy and slow-setting cement was used instead of plaster. The work was carried on under canvas, with steam heat, and was completed during the holidays, 1910. The figure





was left in the mould until the spring, when the protecting shell was broken off, and "Black Hawk" emerged once more.

The statue stands about three miles up the river from Oregon in Ogle county. The figure itself is forty-two feet in height and rests upon a solid cube projecting above the ground about six feet, thus making the whole structure rise about forty-eight feet from the surface. The statue, without the foundation or pedestal, weighs 268 tons. It is a solid mass of concrete, except for a small shaft in the center which ends just above the folded arms, and allows a person to gaze out over the broad landscape. The statue represents an Indian, with his long blanket extending gracefully to his feet, and standing with folded arms gazing calmly over the scene of beauty before him. As Stonehenge typifies the earliest inhabitants of England, as the pyramids point back to the morning of Egypt's history, and the Pelasgic stonework tells of the forerunners of the Greeks, so the Indian statue typifies, with all the grandeur and significance of a great artist's skill, what was best in that race which occupied this region, when our forefathers—wholly ignorant that America existed—were peasants, burghers, or knights in the various shires of England, or the countries of continental Europe.

The statue was dedicated Saturday afternoon, July 1, 1911. Seven hundred citizens of Oregon and the vicinity attended, and a special train with about two hundred people came from Chicago. Mr. Frank O. Lowden presided. The program included an original poem, "The Pine Forest," by Elia W. Peattie, an address by Edgar A. Bancroft, general attorney for the International Harvester Company, and responses by two speakers of Indian blood, Miss Laura M. Cornelius representing the Oneidas, and Dr. Charles Eastman, the Sioux. Hamlin Garland read a poem on the "Trail Makers," and Lorado Taft, after a vigorous demand from the audience, gave



a short explanation of how the idea of the statue was conceived and put into execution. Through the kindness of Mr. Charles D. Etnyre, of Oregon, we are favored with copies of the "Ogle County Republican," containing verbatim reports of many of the addresses, from which we extract the following brief quotations:

From Mr. Bancroft's scholarly address: "There the sculptor has placed imperishably the Indian—not sullen; not resentful; not despondent; not surrendering; but simple; unflinching; erect; with the pathos of the past in his face, the tragedy of the future in his eyes, but with dauntless courage of a man in his figure and in his whole attitude."

From the interesting remarks of Dr. Eastman as to his own race: "This monument shall stand, as every day, no doubt, Black Hawk himself stood, in silent prayer to the Great Master at sunrise and sunset. So may this monument stand in silent prayer, proclaiming to generations to come, that, after all, we are children of the same maker, and we are all brothers."

From the sculptor's own explanation of the genesis of the work: "This is the way it happened: Every evening as these shadows turned blue, we walked over this bluff. We have always been very faithful in going over to Mr. Heckman's every evening to pay our homage and affection, and we always stopped at this point to rest—this is our fourteenth summer, and we have generally taken that attitude, restful, reverent. And as we stood here, we involuntarily folded our arms, and it came over me that generations before had done so. And so the figure grew out of that attitude, as we stood and looked on these beautiful scenes."

Mr. Wallace Heckman, upon whose land the figure stands, is preparing a pamphlet containing the speeches and other matter relating to the dedication.

Illinois has cause to welcome this work of Mr. Taft as one of the most noteworthy of her historical memorials.





AN ILLINOIS QUARANTINE ORDER ISSUED IN  
1801.

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Belleville, Illinois, Dec. 8, 1911.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,  
Sec'y. Illinois State Historical Society,  
Springfield, Ill.

ESTEEMED LADY:

Your communication of the 2nd of this month, in reference to a quarantine order found in the old records of this county and the request for a description thereof for the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, also to give theories I may have in mind about its history, is at hand.

Will say in reply, that the order bears date May 6th, 1801, and was made by the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace, a court of record of St. Clair County, Indiana Territory.

For the purpose of correcting an error made by a number of writers about the early court of Illinois, I will say that the Court of Quarter Sessions was a separate and distinct court and not the popular appellation of the Court of Common Pleas, as those writers state. That these were separate courts is apparent from the commissions issued to the judges and clerks thereof and from the dockets kept by each court, which are among the old records of this county. It appears that the Court of Quarter Sessions had criminal jurisdiction and in addition, attended to the public business, now entrusted to the County Boards.



The Court of Common Pleas had jurisdiction of civil suits.

John Deemoulin, James Lemen and J. Francois Perrey were the "Esquires." The court was held at Cahokia.

The order reads as follows:

"It is Ordered that a Guard be placed at the upper and Lower ferrys so as to Keep off the Plague of the Small Pox that now rages on the Spanish Side.....

It is ordered that there shall be two Malitia men at each ferry.....placed as Guards.

Ordered that all person or persons which will cross over to the Spanish Side, shall pay a fine of Six Dollars for the first fault and the person or persons aiding to ferry him, her or them over, Six Dollars each; and for the second fault twelve dollars and two days imprisonment; and shall Remain in prison till her or they pays their fine.

Ordered that any persons offering to cross from the Spanish Side here shall pay a fine of twenty four Dollars and imprisonment till they pay docters the fine.

Ordered also that the above fines shall be distributed and applied in the manner following..... One third of the fine to the Informers, one third to the Guard, and one third to the County.

Ordered that the ferrymen shall have all their Canoes brought on the Rigolet and Keep but one Canoe to cross such people as works to remain on the Spanish Side.

That any bringing over goods or other property Coming from the Spanish Side will be confiscated and applied to the above mentioned fine.

Ordered that the above Rules be in force from this Evening.....All Boats, Canoes and all property Coming from the upper part of the mississippi shall not be permitted to Come here without making a quarrentine at the upper End of St. Cabaret."





As for "theories I may have in mind about its history" I am inclined to think while the order was made for protection, there then existed a rivalry between the residents of the opposite banks of the big river.

I find that in May 1792 the Court of Quarter Sessions St. Clair County, Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio River, at Cahokia, entered the following order:

"From the presentations of the Grand Jury it is ordered that a polite letter be wrote to the commander of St. Louis requesting him to forbid the subjects of Spain from crossing the indians from our side to the St. Louis side. We having a ferry established for this village."

At a time prior to this, 1789, "Orders had been received from New Orleans by the Lieutenant Governor of St. Louis for him to make every difficulty possible with the people of this side so that they might thereby be forced to go and live on the other." One of the difficulties referred to was to incite the Indians. Gov. Miro of the Spanish territory issued a proclamation offering land gratis and other attractions to all new comers. This, with some other causes, almost depleted Kaskaskia. From 500 whites and 500 slaves in 1778, it dwindled down to 44 families in 1790.

Be it said to the credit of the people of Cahokia that they "held the fort" and refused to be either terrified or bribed into abandoning it. Their loyalty was in a measure rewarded, for in 1790 Cahokia was the metropolis of the west, as well as the bulwark of peace, order and good government. They stood by the ship until the waters submerged the flag staff. Its heroism is worthy of a better fate.

Respectfully yours,  
FRANK PERRIN.



## AN UNUSUAL MATERIAL FOR ABORIGINAL HOES.

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By J. F. Steward.

Very naturally the kinds of aboriginal implements, as well as the specific forms thereof, wrought, as they often were, by untrained hands, conformed but imperfectly to service requirements. Although ever so skilled the hands in working the material available, that material seldom lent itself kindly to the means for shaping it, and few materials were susceptible to a variety of forms.

Although flint is hard, yet we may say that, in a sense, it was the most flexible of all the kinds of rock. It is hard and could easily be chipped, as shown by the many forms of implements and weapons left by the races gone. Although we know that traffic, particularly in copper, obsidian and the best varieties of flint, was carried on, yet each home locality was mainly depended upon for material from which to make the tools of agriculture and weapons for defense.

The dwellers of our "Great American Bottom," largely with fire as a quarrying tool (as was the wont of the wild tribes), dug from the bluffs along the Mississippi the sheets of thinly bedded flint, or chipped from the nodules of the sub-carboniferous formations the materials for the hoes we find in their deserted gardens and fields, many showing polish by long use.

Along the sea coasts the natives shaped, by breaking out and grinding, tools for their fields from the great sea shells as well as weapons for attack and defense. In the abandoned gardens of Florida are also uncovered, with





those worked from shells, many chipped from a siliceous limestone of the later geological deposits.

On the prairies, bordering which were groves of hard wood timber, where flints were only found in pebble form, a flattened stick, hardened by fire, was no doubt, used to prepare the soil and plant the corn. They are not now found; perishable, they passed away with the hands of maiden and matron that plied them.

But it is of unusual material availed of I set myself to record. In the glacial drift of northern Illinois many boulders exist, trappean, granite in various forms and mica shist, the latter not of the kind that crumbles, but of hardness shown to have been capable of withstanding the grinding action of the great glacial mill that brought and left them here. Years after the French had come and gone, and after the coming of the actual settlers, there yet remained a few natives, having their cabins, their fields and, as well (to satisfy their sporting spirits) their race course, at the upper part of the site of the Miami town of Maramech, on Fox river. While in the old fields I have found but one hoe of other material (a large flake of polished siliceous limestone) I have five of hard mica shist, the large one being 11 5-8 inches long. The largest here shown, three in number, still having the unsharpened working edges, were lying side by side, a little below the surface of the ground, flatly next to a boulder when the latter was being removed from the field. The smaller two were found in the abandoned gardens. There, in a beautiful grove of oaks, upon the bluff, rising from the river, and beside the old Sac and Fox trail, after having crossed the river ford at the island, were still found, by the whites, the cabins of a few of the natives. Where the three hoes had been hidden by their maker are fragments of the same material, and as that is seldom found worked into implements it is believed that here dwelt a workman, skilled in shaping the refractory rock, who made hoes for local use and barter. The passing

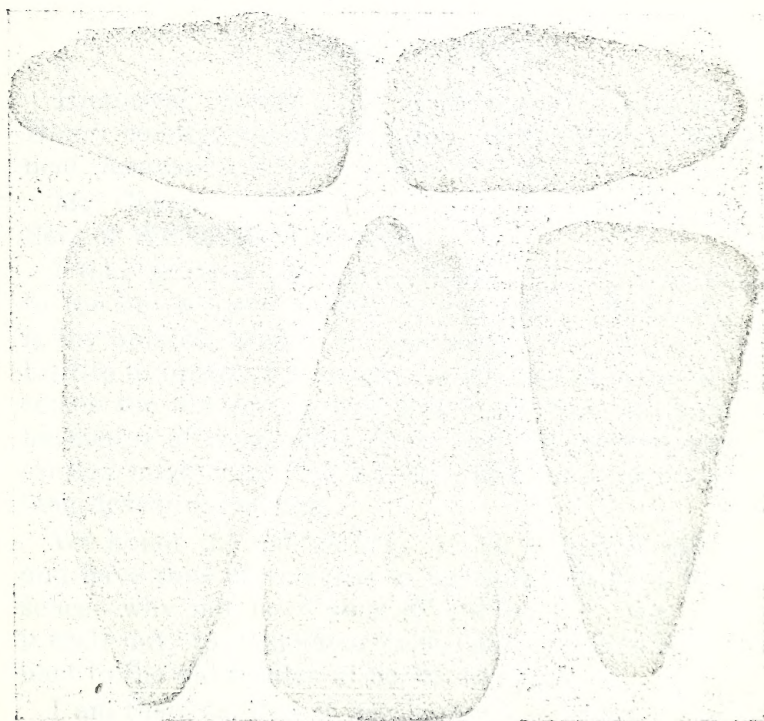


away of the manufacture and use of the crude implements was, seemingly, contemporaneous with the coming of the French, who brought superior tools for tilling the gardens of Maramech where, erstwhile, with tools so crude corn, beans, squashes and watermelons were made to grow—melons no doubt as sweet as those my boyhood there knew, tended by blades of shining steel.









and found in the same place  
for the first time. It was  
which we found the first time.

We should not be too sure  
clean this locality and let the  
munity for their own  
beautiful scene.



## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WETHERSFIELD, HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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By Charles T. Little.

Historical sketches of Wethersfield township and Henry county, presented to the Old Settlers at Wethersfield, August 31, 1911 by Chas. T. Little.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen and the old settlers of Wethersfield township:

I take pride in paying a tribute of honor and respect to the old settlers of this or any other community, for in my opinion, next to the old soldier who has laid down his life to protect his country in its time of greatest peril, comes the old settler who has faced the privation and hardships of those early days, that we the younger generation might reap the benefits that are a result of that long drawn out struggle.

We honor the old soldiers, which is proper and right, and have sons of veterans to represent them in their absence—why not have sons of old settlers who consider it their duty to commemorate the name of those who stand next to the old soldier in honor and fame.

I am thankful that it has been my privilege to be born and raised in one of the grandest old states in the Union, for the sun never shone on a better land than on that which we have the right to call Home, Sweet Home.

We should feel grateful to those old pioneers who have chosen this locality and laid the foundation of this community, for God might have made a better and more beautiful country than this; but he never did.





It is best that the rising generation of our community should not forget that seventy-five years ago, the lands of this county were a part of a vast wilderness extending from the eastern limits of the great Mississippi valley to the wave lapped coast of the Pacific, and that the territory embraced in our county which we now proudly call home was the rendezvous of savage and wild beasts—For two reasons it is best to remember these facts, first, that we may keep fresh in our hearts, the cherished memory of those early frontiersmen, to whose courage the present prosperity of the township may be traced, and second that we may compare “then” with “now” and realize the extent of the achievements that make the rapid progress of the American people. We are becoming so familiar with modern improvements that we lose sight of the fact that there must have been a beginning, a struggle between want and prosperity, a period of hardship, privation and great danger.

It is when we come in contact with the old settler, the living evidence of that early condition, that we stop to think of a time when not a railroad, a house, a barn, a fence, a store, or even the sound of a domestic fowl was to be seen or heard here, while we now look over a surface of country dotted with farm houses and see what cities have sprung up and marvel not at the railroads and other modes of travel, such as automobiles, airships, etc., and the telegraph and telephones which connect us with our comparatively near neighbors on the Atlantic and Pacific shores, and when we note the many comforts and luxuries that are ours and that were never dreamed of by the pioneers, we realize that we are indeed heirs to a legacy of ingenuity, enterprise and thrift and all the attributes that make civilization perfect.

It is therefore appropriate that the old settlers of this vicinity meet at least once a year to renew the incidents of early days and that others join with them to do honor to their memory.



The town of Wethersfield was laid out in the spring of 1837 by Rev. Joseph Goodrich, John F. Willard and Henry G. Little, seventeen years before Kewanee was located.

Rev. Joseph Goodrich erected the first cabin in the colony in January of 1837. Soon after other log cabins were erected by Henry G. Little, William T. Little and others. The second dwelling in the colony was erected by Sullivan Howard, it being built of lumber that was hauled a distance of seventy miles and according to the records, this was the first frame house erected in the colony. A little later and other settlers began to come, and although there were scattered settlements in different directions especially to the north, yet all interests centered in Wethersfield.

They came here for their mail, to the shops to have work done, and after the stores were established they came here to trade. The children were sent here to school.

The first election in Wethersfield was held at the home of Henry G. Little on the first Monday in August, 1837. My grandfather, Abner B. Little, being the oldest man in the settlement, was given the honor of casting the first vote.

Col. Sylvester Blish, who arrived with his family in July, 1837, was the first postmaster.

The first furrow was turned by William T. Little in 1836, by the use of a home made plow.

Rev. Ithamar Pillsbury preached the first sermon, the meetings being held at different homes until the log school house was built.

The first bed of onions was planted by Elisha Wolcott, so according to this account, some of the old settlers must have been fond of onions.

The first one hundred bushels of corn was raised by Col. Sylvester Blish in 1842 and the first shovel plow was made by Mr. Cosner.





Mrs. Sullivan Howard, daughter of Abner B. Little, was the first white woman to live in the settlement.

David Potter set out the first apple trees in 1839.

The first grave opened in the old Wethersfield cemetery was on November 6th, 1840, when the remains of Mrs. Goodrich, aged 40 years were laid to rest.

Within sight of this place to the west stands the old homestead of Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Hurd, who were also old settlers of this township and, as the records in Cambridge will show, were the first couple married in Henry county, which event occurred on August 22nd, 1837.

Wethersfield can claim the oldest log cabin, still standing in this part of the State of Illinois, erected by Abner B. Little in 1837, on the old homestead which was purchased from the government and which is still owned by the Littles.

This log cabin is in a good state of preservation, it being a structure 16 by 18 feet in dimensions, yet in the winter of 37 and 38, it was the home of sixteen persons. Many relics and keepsakes may be found within this log house, which are becoming more desirable and valuable as the years roll by. Here may be found the old violin cello, the first musical instrument of any kind brought to the township, which was used by my father, R. Augustus Little to assist him in leading the singing as chorister first in the old log school house used as a meeting house on the Sabbath day, and later in the more modern house of worship.

The names of some of the other old settlers I might mention are the Kemerlings, Carsons, Otises, Warners, Bryants, Kilsingtons, Coltises, Pages and Wheelers and also many others who are registered among the old settlers of this vicinity.

The late Hon. Thos. J. Henderson whose name is familiar to all the old settlers of this locality, in describing this tract of land as he first saw it, said: "It was a



bright, beautiful morning and as the rising sun poured a flood of sunlight on the landscape before me, gladdened as it was by the rain of the day before, I thought I had never looked upon a more glorious scene. For miles and miles stretching away in every direction you could see as fair a land as the eye of man ever rested upon. I have never forgotten that scene. It was so lovely and so grand that for a time we stopped to take in its full grandeur and beauty.

This is not the same neighborhood today that it was in 1837. Then in all Henry county there were not one thousand inhabitants.

Then the golden grain fell by the hand of the cradler or was cut with a sickle, for they had no reapers or mowers in that day.

Then they threshed out wheat and other small grain with flails, or tramped it out with horses, for threshing machines and corn shellers were not yet invented. Even the lucifer match at that time was unknown, flint and steel being kept in almost every family and even then one neighbor often had to borrow fire from another.

There were no railroads in Illinois in 1837 and no telegraphs or telephones, no photographs, ambrotypes or even daguerreotypes, yet people of that day lived and seemed to enjoy life and never knew of many of the modern improvements of today.

August 31st will always be fresh in my memory, not alone for the old settlers' reunion that is being celebrated today, but on that date twelve years ago, my father was laid to rest in the old Wethersfield cemetery after a life of usefulness as a pioneer and settler in the southwest part of the village of Wethersfield extending over an unbroken period of sixty-two years, having settled in Wethersfield in the early part of 1837.

May those present live to enjoy many more reunions such as we are celebrating today and the records be such





that the future generations may be able to speak with honor and praise.

“Under the sod and the dew,  
Awaiting the judgment day,  
Under the flowers that grew,  
Lay our old settlers, honored and grey.  
Their trials and worries are past,  
Their struggles and hardships are o’er,  
They have won for themselves at last  
A home on that golden shore.  
The Wethersfield settlers are there,  
Their battle of life has been won,  
Their honors and glories they share,  
In that home with a new life begun.  
The noble deeds they have done  
Should be an example to those  
Who on life’s journey, have just begun  
And to honor them, to life’s close.”



## JERSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

### REPORT OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE SEVENTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF JERSEY COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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#### *To the Jersey County Historical Society:*

Your committee appointed to make arrangements for the observance of the seventy-second anniversary of the organization of Jersey county submits the following:

The anniversary celebration was held in the city of Jerseyville, Saturday, August the 5th, 1911. The weather was ideal and the celebration a success in every way. The attendance during the day is conservatively estimated at 7,000. The program as arranged was carried out and it is most gratifying to state that the people were entertained and entirely satisfied. Perfect order prevailed in the city throughout the entire day.

#### MUSIC.

The music for the occasion was furnished by the White Hussar Band of Alton. The music was in charge of the music committee composed of E. B. Shafer, P. M. Hamilton and John N. Beaty.

#### BALLOON ASCENSION.

The balloon ascension was made from the vacant lots on North State Street by Aeronaut King of Springfield, at 12 o'clock. It was expected the ascension would take place an hour earlier, but delay in inflating the bag caused the delay. The ascension was perfect. King ascended 3,000 feet and came down at the Sumner residence, three blocks from the starting point. Mayor J. M. Page was in charge of the balloon arrangements.





## BASKET DINNER.

Fully 500 people enjoyed basket dinners in the court house yard. All over the yard there were families and groups enjoying the noon meal, and the social features connected with it. The baskets were stored in the Court House for safe keeping.

## PLATFORM MEETING.

During the afternoon the exercises were held in the Court House yard. Seats were provided for 2,000 people. The speakers and the "Thirty-Niners" were seated on a long platform built especially for the occasion. O. B. Hamilton, President of this Society presided. At the opening of the program Mayor Joseph M. Page welcomed the visitors to the city. The speaker of the afternoon was the Hon. John M. Woodson, of St. Louis. Mr. Woodson was formerly a resident of Greene and Macoupin counties and a prominent member of the bar in his day. His father served honorably on the bench of this Judicial Circuit for a number of years. The address of Mr. Woodson contains a fund of valuable local historical matter. The address has been printed in full in the local papers, and the original manuscript is in possession of the Historical Society. Minor S. Gowin, of McCune, Kas., a former resident, also gave a short address.

## FORESTER EXHIBITION DRILLS.

A pleasing feature was the Woodman Forester exhibition drills at 4:30. The judges named to decide the contest were Fred A. Long, W. K. Dodge and Eugene Watson. The judges awarded the first prize, \$40.00, to the Alton team and the second prize to the Jerseyville team, \$20.00.

The committee on drills was composed of J. W. Becker, Wm. F. Brockman and Lester Fritz.



## AUTO RIDE.

At the close of the exercises the "Thirty-Niners" were photographed. Later they were given an automobile ride, through the courtesy of the auto owners. The "Thirty-Niners" were given souvenir badges and were the guests of honor during the day. About sixty were present.

## VISITORS.

Several hundred visitors, representing nine states, came back to their old home county to greet friends and relatives. It is generally admitted that the one feature, more than any other, that made the day so delightful, was that of visiting and sociability. Much credit for this is due the invitation committee, composed of John W. Vinson, Mrs. Cornelia J. Shephard and Mrs. Fannie H. English. The many letters received by the committee in response to invitations are being preserved in a scrap book, which is the property of the Society. Some of these letters have been published in the newspapers.

## FINANCES.

"All's well that ends well." Usually the financial side of a public celebration is a burdensome one. Your committee is happy to report that there was ample money subscribed by our citizens to pay all the expenses and leave a balance on hand. The finance committee deserves special commendation for the manner in which they cared for the work assigned them. They report a most generous response on part of our business men and citizens. The committee is composed of Edward Cross, P. M. Hamilton, H. S. Daniels, H. B. Hill, C. G. Reddish and Wm. F. Brockman. The chairman, Mr. Cross, has filed an itemized statement showing receipts and expenditures. This will show the total raised \$419.00 and total expense \$345.89, leaving a balance of \$73.11 on hand. Your committee recommend that this balance be held by the committee to be used in next year's celebration.





## PUBLIC COMFORT.

It's the little things that either irritate or please. One of the sweetening influences of the celebration was the rest room in the court house, in charge of the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps. Here were chairs, rockers, cots, water pitchers and wash bowls, towels and comforts of various kinds. The ladies in charge report that the rest room was more generally patronized than it was a year ago.

## RECEPTION COMMITTEE.

The reception committee looked after the comfort of the speaker of the day, and otherwise contributed to the pleasure of the visitors. The committee was composed of Mayor J. M. Page, Judge G. W. Herdman, Col. W. H. Fulkerson, Hon. T. S. Chapman, S. H. Bowman, A. H. Cochran, Judge H. W. Pogue, Judge Chas. S. White, Elias Cockrell, Judge A. M. Slaten, Hon. H. A. Shephard, Hon. J. A. Kirby, A. F. Pitt, Chas. E. Miner, Ed. J. Vaughn, J. H. Smith, B. F. Cochran, P. M. Hamilton, R. C. Gledhill, J. W. Becker, Leslie Cross, Dr. A. K. Van Horne.

The committee desires to express its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Hon. John M. Woodson in delivering the interesting historical address without charge to the Society, and for which hearty thanks are hereby extended. Also to W. S. VanPlet, janitor at the court house, who performed many acts to help the celebration; to James Bell for use of water tanks; to all the people that in any way contributed to the exercises of the day, and especially to those who contributed financially.

Respectfully,

O. B. HAMILTON,  
J. M. PAGE,  
A. K. VAN HORNE,  
H. R. GLEDHILL,  
J. W. BECKER,

Committee.



## NOVEL PICTURE OF 152 JERSEY PIONEERS.

JUDGE HARRISON W. POGUE'S COLLECTION OF MEN IN COUNTY BEFORE 1840 IS HUNG IN COUNTY COURT ROOM—HEAVY FRAME IS MADE OF NATIVE OAK.

Judge Harrison W. Pogue has spent many years collecting photographs of old settlers of Jersey county who were here before 1840 and as a result has 152, which he has assembled into one large picture. It has been rung in the county court room. As it was impossible to secure a photo mat of sufficient size to accommodate the pictures, one of pine lumber was built. The extra heavy frame was made of Jersey county oak two inches thick. The first buggy that came to the county was brought by Capt. Jonathan Cooper and a picture of the captain in his buggy is in the group, also the first county officers: Judge Joseph G. Scott, Col. John W. English, sheriff; Robert L. Hill, circuit clerk, and George W. Lowder, county clerk. Of the 152 eight are living.





## ORGANIZATION OF THE BUREAU COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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By Mary Knox Stevens, Corresponding Secretary of the  
Society.

At the Early Settlers Meeting held in Princeton, Aug. 26th, an interesting letter of reminiscences from Geo. W. Stone, read by Rev. C. C. Carpenter suggested the organization of a Historical Society for Bureau county. Rev. Carpenter was eloquent in his appeal to the people to lose no time in starting the organization and Rev. B. Barrett Evans moved that the President appoint a committee of five to take the first steps.

President L. R. Bryant appointed Mr. Andrew Swanzy, Mr. Frank Nye, Mr. H. A. Clark, Mrs. E. P. Lovejoy and Mrs. Justus M. Stevens as the committee.

The first meeting was held Oct. 9th, at the residence of Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. H. M. Trimble meeting with the committee. Mr. Swanzy was chairman of the first meeting and Mrs. Stevens secretary.

Two other meetings were held, but did not seem to arouse much enthusiasm until Hon. Wm. A. Meese of Moline addressed the first public meeting in the lecture room of the M. E. church Nov. 18th, when 53 people joined the society.

Mr. Meese interested his audience at once, telling them of the good material they had to start with; mentioning the names of Lovejoy, Bryant, Henderson, Elliott, and many others. Telling of the records our soldiers made in the Civil War; there being 500 Bureau county men at the battle of Shiloh alone.



County Superintendent Geo. O. Smith, chairman of the meeting, read the constitution that was finally adopted after a few alterations had been made.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Edwin B. Cushing, of Tiskilwa, President; C. C. Pervier, of Sheffield, Vice president; P. E. Anderson, of Princeton, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Justus M. Stevens, of Princeton, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Fannie Moseley, of Princeton, Assistant Corresponding Secretary; H. C. Roberts, of Princeton, Treasurer. Twenty-five Second Vice Presidents were chosen, one from each township in the county.

At Mr. Meese's suggestion we are to have an Owen Lovejoy day January 6th, to celebrate the 101st anniversary of the birth of Mr. Lovejoy.





THE BATTLE FLAG OF THE THIRTIETH ILLI-  
NOIS INFANTRY, AFTER HALF A CENTURY,  
TATTERED AND TORN, COMES TO  
MEMORIAL HALL,  
SPRINGFIELD.

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The torn, tattered, bullet shredded battle flag of the Thirtieth Illinois Infantry is back in Springfield for the first time in more than half a century. Three years of this time the flag was proudly borne at the head of the Thirtieth through many a stormy battle until finally before Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864, in a desperate, deadly hand to hand conflict, it was wrested from the Union forces after several color bearers had been shot down and many a confederate had been killed in his frantic efforts to gain possession of the tottering flag in the waving ranks of the boys in blue.

Since that time it has remained in confederate hands until November 28th, 1911, when it was restored to its friends and former defenders by survivors of the Gray. General Frank S. Dickson, the Adjutant General, has placed it in the memorial hall in the State capitol building with other pathetic reminders of the days of the civil war—the fierce conflict for the preservation of the Union.

PATHETIC SCENE MARKS ITS RETURN.

The transfer of the flag from Confederate to Union hands is one of the saddest and most pathetic stories in recent history. Elaborate preparations had been made for turning over the flag to Capt. E. B. David, of Aledo, the sole surviving officer of the gallant regiment. He received it. He attempted to speak, but in the midst of his



remarks the aged, gray haired veteran broke down entirely. He was so completely unnerved by the occasion that he could not continue. After vainly striving to speak he tottered to where the flag lay—the flag that meant so much to him, and beneath which he had fought so many times, had seen his friends and fellow soldiers mowed down—and buried his face in it and wept. He wept for grief as it vividly recalled to him those fateful days and for joy at a reunited country and the return of the old dear flag.

Its history was brought out at the meeting in Chicago November 28, 1911, which had been arranged particularly for the occasion. It was a joint session of Columbia Post No. 706, Grand Army of the Republic, and Confederate Camp No. 8. Large numbers of the blue and the gray—former foes, but now friends—met in the same room to participate in the exercises. Commander Garrard of the post, welcomed them.

#### MUSTERED IN AT CAMP BUTLER.

The Thirtieth Infantry was mustered into the service of the United States at Camp Butler, near Springfield, August 28, 1861, and here it was that the battle flag was presented to the regiment by the women of Sangamon and surrounding counties. They were particularly interested in this regiment for it was recruited largely from this vicinity. Many residents of Sangamon county were numbered in its ranks, and most of the remainder were taken from the counties north of here. It was regarded largely in the nature of a "home" regiment, and the women presented them the flag to lead them on to victory.

What the battle flag means to a regiment may be appreciated when it is known that every regiment carries two flags. One is the stars and stripes, the other the battle flag. The stars and stripes may be lost, may be captured or may be destroyed, and the regiment can get another





in fifteen minutes by drawing on the quartermaster. With the battle flag it is different. There is but one and when it is gone, it is forever, unless it can be recaptured from those who have taken it.

#### IN THE THICKEST OF FIGHT.

The Thirtieth Infantry was in the thickest of the fight before Atlanta. The rebel forces were pouring a deadly fire of shot and shell into them. They wavered and were forced to retreat. However, they eventually won the day, but when the losses of that memorable July 22, 1864, were figured up it was learned for the first time that the Thirtieth had lost its battle flag. They knew it had been captured, but when or how they did not know. Never again did they see the flag.

During recent years many captured flags have been returned by the victorious forces of both sides, but during all these years nothing was heard from the missing flag of the Thirtieth Illinois. Absolutely no trace of it could be found. General Hardee was one of the Confederate officers who played a conspicuous part in the engagement before Atlanta. He died a short time ago, and his effects were examined by his daughter. Among them was a box filled with war relics and among these relics was the battle flag of the Thirtieth Illinois.

Accompanying the flag was a note telling of its capture. It showed the desperate struggle members of the Thirtieth had made to save the flag, how color sergeant after color sergeant was shot down, and how Confederate after Confederate was killed before it was finally captured by Private John C. Leird, of Co. A, Twenty-seventh Tennessee Infantry, C. S. A. The story told of its being bathed in blood. Gen. Hardee's daughter began a correspondence in regard to the flag, and finally discovered that Private Leird was still alive and living in Tennessee.



She presented him with the flag, which he in turn forwarded to Confederate Camp No. 8, of Chicago, with the request that it be restored to its original owners.

A band escorted the flag into the joint meeting and a reception was held about it. Col. W. E. Poulson, of Confederate Camp No. 8, presented the flag to Capt. David. The latter accepted it, attempted to speak, but failed and handed it to the Adjutant General, Frank S. Dickson. The latter in officially accepting it on behalf of the State of Illinois, traced some of its thrilling history, told of the great meaning of the occasion, and promised that the flag would rest with other battle flags in Memorial Hall.





497-498

## REPRINTS.



## DEATH OF ELIJAH P. LOVEJOY. A VOICE FROM THE PAST.

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MAYOR KRUM'S OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LOVEJOY TRAGEDY  
SEVENTY-FOUR YEARS AGO—A DOCUMENT BUT LITTLE  
KNOWN—FOUND IN AN OLD NEWSPAPER OF  
NOVEMBER 9, 1837.

The following statement from John M. Krum, mayor of Alton in 1837, in regard to the pro-slavery riot of Nov. 7, seventy-four years ago, appeared in the Alton Spectator of Nov. 9. It has never been re-published in any volume printed on that subject, and we give it place today as a valuable official report of the tragedy. The paper which contains it is owned by Mr. B. S. Sawyer, whose father was editor of the Spectator at one time, but who had severed his connection with the paper a month previous to the riot.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Mayor's Office, City of Alton,

Nov. 9th, 1837.

In order that the public mind may be correctly informed as to the lamentable and fatal tragedy that was enacted in our city on the night of the 7th inst., and with a view of preventing and correcting distorted statements of the proceedings of the mob and those persons against whom the attack was directed, I deem it incumbent on me, and proper, that I should present in my official capacity, a plain statement of all the facts connected with the unhappy excitement that has so long agitated the peace and tranquility of the citizens of Alton. Without referring to causes or results of previous excitements with refer-





ence to the Alton Observer, I shall confine myself to the last and most melancholy occurrence that has befallen our city.

For several days past it had been announced and generally believed that a printing press was hourly expected to be landed at our wharf. It had also been the current rumor that this press was intended for the re-establishment of the Alton Observer. The circulation of these reports caused no small degree of excitement among those who have taken a decided stand against the abolition sentiments that were understood to have been disseminated by the Observer. Various reports of a threatening character were in circulation against the landing of the press, which led the friends of the paper and its editor, to make preparations to defend the press, in case any violence should be offered by those opposed to the publication of the paper. On Tuesday, about 3 o'clock in the morning, I was called from my lodgings and informed that the press had arrived at the wharf, and that my official interference was desired. I immediately repaired to the wharf and remained there until the press was stored in the warehouse of Godfrey, Gilman & Co. There were no indications of violence or resistance at that time. The arrival of the Abolition press, as it was generally termed, was known in the early part of the day and served to rekindle the excitement. Representation was made to the Common Council of the threatening reports in circulation. The Council, however, did not deem it necessary to take any action on the subject. Gentlemen directly interested in protecting the press from mob violence, deemed it expedient to guard the warehouse with men and arms, in readiness to resist violence should any be offered. During the early part of the night of Tuesday it was reported that 30 or 40 men were on guard within the warehouse.

About 10 o'clock at night some 20 or 30 men appeared at the south end of the warehouse and made some indica-



tions of an attack. Mr. W. S. Gilman, from the third story of the warehouse, addressed those without and urged them to desist, and at the same time informed them that the persons within the warehouse were prepared and should endeavor to protect their property, and that serious consequences might ensue. Those without demanded the press and said they would not be satisfied until it was destroyed; said they did not wish to injure any person or other property, but insisted on having the press. To which Mr. Gilman responded that the press could not be given up. The persons on the outside then repaired to the north end of the building and began throwing stones, etc., and continued their violence for from fifteen to twenty minutes, when a gun was fired from one of the windows of the warehouse and a man named Lyman Bishop was mortally wounded. He was carried to a surgeon's office and the mob withdrew and dispersed, with the exception of a small number. Upon the first indication of disturbance, I called upon the civil authorities most convenient and repaired with all dispatch to the scene of action. By this time the firing from the warehouse and the death of one of their number (Bishop had died soon after receiving the shot), had greatly increased the excitement and added to the numbers of the mob. Owing to the late hour of the night but few citizens were present at the onset except those engaged in the contest. Consequently the civil authorities could do little towards dispersing the mob except by persuasion. A large number of persons soon collected around me. I was requested to go to the warehouse and inform those within that those outside had resolved to destroy the press and would not desist until they had accomplished their object; that all would retire until I should return, which request was made by acclamation, and all soon retired to await my return.

I was replied to by those in the warehouse that they had assembled to protect their property from lawless





violence, and that they were determined to do so. The mob began to again assemble with increased numbers, and with guns and weapons of different kinds. I addressed the multitude and commanded them to desist and disperse, to which they listened attentively and respectfully, but to no purpose. A rush was now made to the warehouse with the cry "fire the house," "burn them out," etc. The firing soon became fearful and dangerous between the contending parties—so much so that the further interposition of the civil authorities was believed inadequate and hazardous in the extreme—no means were at my control, or that of any officer present, by which the mob could be dispersed and the loss of life and the shedding of blood prevented. Scenes of the most daring recklessness and infuriated madness followed in quick succession. The building was surrounded and the inmates threatened with extermination and death in the most frightful form imaginable. Every means of escape by flight was cut off. The scene now became one of most appalling and heartrending interest. Fifteen or twenty citizens, among whom were some of our most worthy and enterprising, were apparently doomed to an unenviable and inevitable death if the flames continued. About the time the fire was communicated to the warehouse, Rev. E. P. Lovejoy, late editor of the Observer, received four balls in the breast, near the door of the warehouse, and fell a corpse in a few seconds. Two others from the warehouse were severely wounded. Several persons engaged in the attack were severely wounded, the wounds, however, are not considered dangerous. The contest had been raging for an hour, or more, when the persons in the warehouse (the exact manner it was done I have not been able to ascertain), intimated that they would abandon the house and the press provided they were allowed to depart unmolested. The doors were soon thrown open and those within retreated down Front street. Several guns were fired upon them while retreating and one individual



had a narrow escape—a ball passing through his coat near the shoulder. A large number of persons now rushed into the warehouse, threw the press upon the wharf where it was broken in pieces and thrown into the river. The fire in the roof of the building was extinguished by a spectator, who deserves great praise for his courageous interference, and but little damage was done by it to the building. No disposition seemed to have been manifested to destroy any other property in the warehouse. Without further attempts at violence the mob now dispersed and no further indications of disorder or violence have been manifested.

The foregoing is stated on what I consider undoubted authority, and mostly from my own personal knowledge.

JOHN M. KRUM, Mayor.

The above appears to be a full and fairly unbiased account of the riot and is important as being an official record. The main thing lacking seems to be the manner of Lovejoy's death. That was in this wise: The mob had placed a ladder against a blind wall of the building which a man ascended and set fire to the roof. Those in the building could not get at him and Capt. Enoch Long called for volunteers to step outside and shoot the man on the ladder who was firing the roof. Lovejoy, A. B. Roff and Royal Weller responded and, stepping out of the door one or more fired at the man on the ladder but missed him. The next minute a volley was poured into them from men concealed behind a lumber pile on the wharf. Lovejoy was killed and both Roff and Weller wounded.





## THE WOOD RIVER MASSACRE.\*

(Read before the Illinois State Lyceum, Dec. 6, 1832.)

By Rev. Thomas Lippincott.

Among the various incidents of the early settlements of Illinois, and those of the last war with Great Britain, that have commanded the attention of writers, there is one which I do not remember to have seen in print, that well deserves to be preserved among the records of frontier hardihood and suffering. I refer to the massacre of a woman and six children, by the Indians, in the forks of Wood river, in 1814. The following is given as an authentic sketch of the facts, taken from the lips of Captain Abel Moore and his wife, who were sufferers in the transaction.

Travellers who have passed on the direct road from Edwardsville to Carrollton will remember at a pleasant plantation on the banks of the east branch of Wood river, a short distance from the dwelling house and powder mill of Mr. George Moore, an old building composed of rough, round logs, the upper story of which projects about a foot on every side, beyond the basement. This, in times of peril, was a block house, or in the common phrase, a fort, to which the early settlers resorted for safety. Pursuing the road about two miles, to an elevated point on the bank of the west fork, where the road turns abruptly down into the creek, another farm, now in possession of a younger member of the family of Moores, exhibits the former residence of Reason Reagan; and midway between those two points resides Captain Abel Moore, on the same spot which he occupied at the period to which our narrative relates. William Moore lived nearly south

\* A monument to the victims of the Wood River Massacre was erected by the descendants of Abel Moore, and dedicated Sept. 12, 1910.



of Abel's on a road which passes toward Milton. Upper Alton is from two to three miles, and Lower Alton four or five miles distant from the scene of action.

It appears that while the gallant rangers were scouring the country, ever on the alert, the inhabitants, who for several years had huddled together in forts, for fear of the Indians, had, in the summer of 1814, attained to such a sense of security that they went to their farms and dwellings, with the hope of escaping further depredations. In the forks of Wood river, were some six or eight families, whose men were for the most part in the ranging service, and whose women and children were thus left to labor for and defend themselves. The block house which I have described was their place of resort on any alarm; but the inconvenience and difficulty of clustering so thickly induced them to leave it as soon as prudence would at all permit.

Nor had the hardy inhabitants forgotten amidst their dangers the duties of social life, nor their high obligations to their Creator. The Sabbath shone, not only upon the domestic circle, as gathered around the fireside altar, but its hallowed light was shed on groups collected in the rustic edifices which the piety of the people had erected for divine worship.

It was on the Sabbath, the tenth of July, 1814, that the painful occurrence took place which I now record. Reason Reagan had gone to attend divine worship at the meeting house, some three miles off, leaving his wife and two children at the house of Abel Moore, which was on the way. About four o'clock in the afternoon Mrs. Reagan went over to her own dwelling to procure some little article of convenience, being accompanied by six children, two of whom were her own; two were children of Abel Moore, and two of William Moore. Not far from, probably a little after, the same time, two men of the neighborhood passed separately, I believe, along the road, in the opposite direction to that in which Mrs. Reagan went; and one of them heard at a certain place a low call, as of





a boy, which he did not answer, and for a repetition of which he did not delay. But he remembered and told it afterward.

When it began to grow dark the families became uneasy at the protracted absence of their respective members; and William Moore came to Abel's, and not finding them there, passed on towards Mr. Reagan's to see what had become of his sister-in-law and children; and nearly about the same time, his wife went across the angle directly towards the same place. Mr. Moore had not been long absent from his brother's before he returned with the information that some one had been killed by the Indians. He had discerned the body of a person lying on the ground, but whether man or woman it was too dark for him to see without a closer inspection than was deemed safe. The habits of the Indians were too well known by these settlers to leave a man in Mr. Moore's situation free from the apprehension of an ambuscade still near.

The first thought that occurred was to flee to the block house. Mr. Moore desired his brother's family to go directly to the fort while he should pass by his own house to take his family with him. But the night was now dark, and the heavy forest was at that time scarcely opened here and there by a little farm, while the narrow road wound through among the tall trees from the farm of Abel Moore to that of his brother, Geo. Moore, where the fort was erected. The women and children therefore chose to accompany William Moore, though the distance was nearly doubled by the measure.

The feelings of the group as they groped their way through the dark woods, may be more easily imagined than described. Sorrow for the supposed loss of relatives and children was mingled with horror at the manner of their death, fear for their own safety, and pain at the dreadful idea that the remains of their dearest friends lay mangled on the cold ground near them, while they were denied the privilege of seeing and preparing them for sepulture.





Silently they passed on till they came to the dwelling of William Moore, and when they approached the entrance he exclaimed, as if relieved from some dreadful apprehension, "Thank God, Polly is not killed." "How do you know?" inquired one. "Because there is the horse she rode." My informant then first learned that his brother-in-law had feared, until that moment, that his wife was the victim that he had discovered.

As they let down the bars. Mrs. William Moore came running out, exclaiming, "They are all killed by the Indians, I expect!" The mourning friends went in for a short time, but hastily departed for the block house, whither by daybreak all or nearly all the neighbors, having been warned by signals, repaired to sympathize and tremble.

I have mentioned that Mrs. William Moore went, as well as her husband, in search of her sister and children. Passing by different routes, they did not meet on the way, nor at the place of death. She jumped on a horse and hastily went in the nearest direction, and as she went, carefully noted every discernible object until at length she saw a human figure lying near a burning log. There was not sufficient light for her to discern the size, sex or condition of the person, and she called the name of one and another of her children, again and again, supposing it to be one of them asleep. At length she alighted and approached to examine more closely. What must have been her sensations on placing her hand upon the back of a naked corpse and feeling, by further scrutiny, the quivering flesh from which the scalp had been torn! In the gloom of night she could just discern something, seeming like a little child sitting so near the body as to lean its head, first one side, and then the other, on the insensible and mangled body. She saw no further, but thrilled with horror and alarm, remounted her horse and hastened home; and when she arrived, quickly put a large kettle of water over the fire, intending to defend herself with scalding water, in case of an attack.





There was little rest or refreshment as may well be supposed, at the fort that night. The women and children of the vicinity, together with a few men who were at home, were crowded together, not knowing but that a large body of the savage foe might be prowling about, ready to pour a deadly fire upon them at any moment, a neighbor and six of the children of the settlement were probably lying in the wood, within a mile or two, dead and mangled by that dreadful enemy! What about subjects of thought and feeling? About three o'clock a messenger was despatched to Fort Russell with the tidings.

In the morning the inhabitants undertook the painful task of ascertaining the extent of their calamity, and collecting the remains for burial. The whole party, Mrs. Reagan and six children, were found lying at intervals along the road, tomahawked and scalped, and all dead, except the youngest of Mrs. Reagan's children, which was sitting near its mother's corpse, alive, with a gash, deep and large, on each side of its little face. It were idle to speak of the emotion that filled the souls of the neighbors, and friends, and fathers, and mothers, and husband, who gathered round to behold this awful spectacle. There lay the mortal remains of six of those whom, but yesterday, they had seen and embraced, in health; and there was one helpless little one, wounded and bleeding and dying, an object of painful solicitude, but scarcely of hope.

To women and youth, chiefly was committed the painful task of depositing their dear remains in the tomb. This was performed on the six already dead on that day. They were interred in three graves, which were carefully dug, so as to lay boards beneath, beside and above the bodies—for there could no coffins be provided in the absence of nearly all the men—and the graves being filled, they were left to receive in aftertimes when peace had visited the settlement, a simple covering of stone, bearing an inscription descriptive of their death.



It was a solemn day, observed my informant, to follow seven bodies to the grave, at once, from so small a settlement; and they, too, buried under such painful circumstances. Could we have followed that train to the grave in which their little church and cemetery were embowered, would we not feel that the procession, the occasion, the ceremony, the emotions were of a character too awful, too sacred to admit of minute observation then; or accurate description now? The seventh, however, was not then buried. The child found alive, received every possible attention; medical aid was procured with great difficulty, but in vain. It followed within a day or two at most.

On the arrival of the messenger at Fort Russell, a fresh express was hastened to Captain (now General) Samuel Whiteside's company, which was on Ridge Prairie, some four miles east of Edwardsville.

It was about an hour after sunrise, on Monday morning, when the gallant troops arrived on the spot—having rode some fifteen miles—ready to weep with the bereaved and to avenge them of their ruthless foes. Abel Moore, who was one of the rangers then on duty, and of course absent at the catastrophe, was permitted to remain at home to assist in burying his children and relatives, and the company dashed on, eager to overtake and engage in deadly conflict with the savages. I regret that I have no *recent* account of the particulars of this interesting pursuit; and that my memory does not hold them with sufficient distinctness to warrant an attempt at the narration. At Indian creek, in what is now Morgan county, some three or four of the Indians were seen, and one killed; and it is a current report among the rangers that not one of the ten that composed the party, survived the fatigue of the retreat before the eager troop.—*Western Monthly Magazine*. From the Sangamo Journal, April 2, 1841.





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BOOK REVIEWS

BOOK REVIEWS.

## BOOK REVIEWS.



## THE ABORIGINES OF MINNESOTA.

PUBLISHED BY THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
ST. PAUL, MINN., 1911.

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Reviewed by Dr. J. F. Snyder.

Among the many advantages enjoyed by the State of Minnesota, the one for which it may be specially congratulated is that of having had—and still having—citizens of education and enterprise devoted to the study of its local anthropology, men broad and sensible enough to comprehend the value of that study as the basis of the state's history; and for public sentiment so enlightened and liberal as to appreciate and encourage their labors, and supply the means for perpetuating the results they obtained, partly in form of the above entitled volume. Particularly to the genius and persistent efforts of four brainy men is science and the public indebted for this magnificent work. It comprises full reports of the state wide surveys and examinations of prehistoric Indian antiquities by Alfred J. Hill, and those of his assistant, Theodore H. Lewis, together with records of the many years of observation and research in the same field by Jacob V. Brower; all "collated, augmented and described" by the eminent geologist and naturalist, Prof. N. H. Winchell.

Mr. Hill, a native of England, coming to Minnesota Territory in 1854, secured employment in the government's office of military roads at St. Paul, and, after admission of the state into the Union, was for many years engaged in the survey department of its land office. While in that position, in intervals of his official duties, and at his own expense, he perfected a complete and accurate map of the state. This led him into the study of early American history, and that of the upper Missis-





issippi region particularly. He served as a volunteer soldier in the Indian war of 1862, and transferred to the office of topographical engineers at Washington, was on duty there until the civil war closed. On his return to Minnesota he joined its Historical Society, was chosen secretary of the committee on archaeology, and soon was recognized as one of the most industrious and competent members, not only of that committee, but of the society. Inspired by his zeal and enthusiasm, the committee of which he was secretary began the systematic survey of all the mounds and other Indian remains in the State.

Some progress was made in this undertaking when, for some cause, the committee was discontinued, but Mr. Hill did not abandon the great scheme he had projected, and for sixteen years he prosecuted it at his own expense; his outlay in that time amounting to \$16,200. In 1880 he became acquainted with Mr. Lewis, who was engaged in similar research, and together they established "The Northwestern Archaeological Survey," an enterprise conducted by them, altogether at Mr. Hill's expense, until his death in June, 1895. Mr. Hill was singularly modest and devoid of ambition for fame in literature or science. With the exception of two or three historical monographs—of marked ability—he wrote nothing for publication, though he no doubt had in view the ulterior design of giving to the public, in print, the fruits of his work when completed, but his death defeated the realization of that intention.

Mr. Lewis was a prolific writer of archaeological sketches, generally well illustrated and published in various scientific periodicals, apparently with Mr. Hill's approval; but never mentioning Mr. Hill's name or intimating in any manner that the contributions to science were elaborated at his cost, or that he was even remotely entitled to any credit for their production. By the terms of their contract, it seems, Mr. Hill retained all plats,





maps, field notes and other data of their surveys and explorations, and all implements, relics and curios recovered belonged to Mr. Lewis, who sold them upon leaving the state in 1905, to Rev. E. C. Mitchell, of St. Paul. And that gentleman very generously presented them, as part of a larger donation, to the Minnesota State Historical Society. The Minnesota legislature, in its appropriations for the State Historical Society, after the death of Mr. Hill, included an amount sufficient to purchase all his accumulated archaeological and historical material, and for publishing the same.

Jacob V. Brower went from Michigan to Minnesota when quite young. There, in 1862, when 19 years of age, he volunteered under Gen. Sibley to fight the Indians, and by subsequent enlistments served in the Union army until the civil war closed in 1865. Returning then to Minnesota he was elected auditor of Todd county, studied law, was admitted to the bar, married and again served the people with high credit as a member of the legislature, and in several other responsible public stations. He was known to science chiefly by his researches respecting the route of Coronado's expedition in 1541, his exploration of the ultimate sources of the Missouri river, and his survey of Lake Itasca and the headwaters of the Mississippi. He was an able man and profound scholar, a fluent and impressive speaker, and voluminous writer. He co-operated with Mr. Hill in his field work from 1886 to 1892; was a very active, influential and valuable member of the Minnesota Historical Society, contributing largely to its historical collections, and also to its literature of the state's archaeology and natural history. He died in June, 1905, leaving his unpublished data and vast collections of prehistoric and historic remains of Indian life, in the custody of the Historical Society of his state.

But a short time after Congress had established the territorial government of Minnesota, in 1849, the Minnesota State Historical Society was organized, and has ever since been well maintained in faithful obedience to its





primary purpose. When the territory was admitted into the Union in 1858, the new state, recognizing the importance of the society, instead of attaching it as an appendage to a library (as in Illinois), placed it in full control of all its historical interests.

One of its charter provisions was a committee on archaeology, charged with the collection of all accessible information relative to the past and present aborigines of the territory, and acquisition and preservation of relics of the arts and other remains illustrative of the Indians' domestic habits and life history. So well has that duty been executed the society has published, apart from its annual reports, 13 volumes of "Historical Collections" of inestimable value, and its museum and library have grown to immense proportions requiring additional buildings for their adequate care and display. In this latest of its publications—the *Aborigines of Minnesota*—Prof. Winchell combined with the elaborate reports of Mr. Hill's field work and the products of years of investigation and study by Mr. Brower and Mr. Lewis, a mass of information from various other sources, and much gained by himself in the course of his long service as State Geologist, forming altogether a priceless contribution to science.

It is a large royal quarto volume, well printed and well bound, of 761 pages, having 642 illustrations in the text, 36 full page half tone plates of noted objects and Indian portraits, several maps, each covering a page, and the Hill diagrams of mounds, many of which are folded, being too large for single pages. They show quite a number of effigy mounds of the type peculiar to southern Wisconsin. The frontispiece is the portrait of a typical historic Indian wearing a blanket and necklace of bears' claws. In the introduction are portraits of Mr. Hill, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Brower, but (unjustifiable) modesty excluded that of Prof. Winchell.





The initial chapter of the work exhaustively, and fairly, reviews all facts that have been advanced in support of the belief, by some, that man existed here prior to, or during, the glacial era. Chief among those "evidences" are the much discussed chipped quartz implements and quartz chips from the gravel beds at Little Falls. However, no dogmatic insistence of their genuineness is expressed, but, on the contrary, the question is disposed of by this statement: "The fact that quartz chippings, and even perfect arrow points of white quartz, are found to be the product of manufacture by the modern Indian, at the same locality, and also more widely in the state, has introduced an element in this investigation which has caused some confusion, and all the quartz chips have been referred, by some, to the Indian of the region." Undoubtedly a correct solution. Another correct opinion handed down—by Mr. Brower for the society—is that the mounds of Minnesota were built by "the Indian of the region," or his immediate ancestors—not by a distinct unknown race as was long conjectured.

The "Records and descriptions of earthworks in Minnesota," including Mr. Hill's plats, occupy the 331 following pages. Then 81 pages are devoted to "Implements of War, the Chase, Domestic Economy and Tobacco Pipes." In succession are chapters descriptive of "Primitive Agriculture, Ornaments, and Foods," "Articles made of Copper," "Dakota Traditions, Myths, Religion, Character, Death and Burial." The two Indian tribes of recent times specially identified with Minnesota were the Dakotas and Ojibwas. To the history and characteristics, the customs, habits and arts of these savages much space in the book is given, including accounts of treaties, missions, reservations and habitations of those and other Indians. This volume, the Aborigines of Minnesota, is a grand repository of facts and information that must in future be indispensable to students of American ethnology and archaeology.





The remarkable amount of work accomplished by the State Historical Society of Minnesota in (comparatively) so brief a period is creditable proof of the intelligence, industry and enlightened views of its managers. Wisely constituted a state institution, controlled by men having proper conceptions of the legitimate province and functions of State Historical Societies, it has achieved results of which its members may justly be proud as comparing brilliantly with those of similar organizations in some of the older and wealthier states.



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## OUR PROGRESS.

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This number of the *Journal* closes its fourth volume. It will be noticed that the pages in this volume are consecutively numbered from the first page of the first number to the last page of this; and that there is added a reference index, thereby perfecting the complete volume for binding and preservation. The preceding volumes of the *Journal*, offered to the public experimentally, were received with favor so encouraging that its permanency may be assured. In its continued publication no pains will be spared to maintain its efficiency and, with that object in view, further improvements will from time to time be adopted.

The interest awakened throughout the State, and far beyond its limits, in the work of this periodical, is very gratifying; and is proof furthermore of the value and variety of the State's historical material, and the alertness and ability of those who search for and contribute it to these pages. The co-operative assistance of the public—particularly of the members of the State Historical Society—that we have repeatedly asked for, though not yet fully meeting our expectations, has also been very gratifying to the managers and readers of the *Journal*. Yet, the field of its labors is broad, and very much still remains to be done to develop the full measure of its resources.

For instance, research in Illinois prehistoric archaeology has, so far, received the attention of but one of our contributors. The State abounds with remains of its vanished aborigines which should be, before too late, investigated, studied, and fully described in these pages. We have recently published very commendable accounts of old Indian trails traversing the State—valuable as in-



dexes of aboriginal travel, trade, and military movements. Descriptions of mounds, ancient defensive works, old Indian village sites, stone implements, etc., observed within the State, however briefly written, and drawings of the same, would be very acceptable to us, and add to the sum of knowledge in that department of Illinois history.

Several well-written biographies, showing much thought and laborious search for facts, have appeared in the *Journal*, attracting wide attention and favorable comment. This branch of the work, it is expected, will be persistently continued. Another series of papers on "The Forgotten Statesmen of Illinois" is very desirable, as many of the once prominent men and women of our State, including some of its Governors and United States Senators, are now known to the public, if at all, only by the briefest biographical sketches.

The beginnings and progress of our educational institutions and religious denominations have been ably treated in several contributions to these pages, as well as in the *Transactions* of the State Historical Society. But that phase of State history is yet far from exhaustion, and dissertations in that line are always read with avidity by a large class of the public.

Reminiscences, the essence of history, are a desideratum at all times. Recollections of old times, and of strange and unusual occurrences, such as rare and unaccountable natural phenomena, are not only of interest to all readers, but are matters that should be permanently recorded.

Discussions of present party politics are, obviously, not admissible in the *Journal*; but the history of past party organizations, the policies they advocated, and the effects of those policies upon our State and its institutions, the development of the State's resources, and the prosperity of its people, are now legitimate, appropriate, and desirable subjects for study and investigation.





These are but a few of the many topics available for the historical writer of the present day; and, we hope these, and many other topics, will engage the attention of the host of scholarly citizens who are now in sympathy with our work.

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#### MADISON COUNTY CENTENNIAL MEETING.

October 18, 1911 the Centennial Association met in the Commercial Club rooms of the Wildey building at Edwardsville. The meeting was a regular session of the association but the doors were thrown open to the public and a hundred or more of representative citizens were there to listen to the remarks of Congressman W. A. Rodenberg of East St. Louis, Senator Edmond Beall of Alton, Representatives Norman G. Flagg of Moro, William Dickmann and a number of others who gave their views about the big celebration.

Charles Boeschenstein, president of the association, presided at the meeting. Senator Beall was the first speaker and in well chosen words told the audience of how he was successful in getting the bill through the State legislature, which provided for an appropriation of \$5,000 for a monument to be erected in this city. Senator Beall gave Representatives N. G. Flagg, J. G. Bardill and Wm. Dickmann their full share of credit for the energy they displayed and the assistance they lent. He made a very interesting address. He declared in conclusion that he believed the Madison County Centennial would not only be the biggest thing of the kind ever planned and executed by an Illinois county, but he was convinced that it was the greatest advertisement this great county could possibly achieve and he pledged his hearty support in every way.

Congressman William A. Rodenberg, told of his interest in Edwardsville, and with courteous compliment declared that the centennial would be held in "the finest city, in the finest county, in the finest congressional dis-





trict, in the finest state, in the finest country of the world." So far as the "home-coming" feature of the Centennial was concerned the congressman averred that it would find him "right at home." "I used to live in this county," said he. "Many years ago my father, who was a Methodist minister, was assigned by conference to the city of Alton, and we located there when I was a small boy, just starting to school."

Congressman Rodenberg then spoke of the federal building which Congress has authorized for Edwardsville, and the hope of this city that it might be advanced to such a stage that the corner stone laying could be a feature of the Centennial.

Representative Norman G. Flagg, then addressed the meeting, stating that he had been endeavoring to locate the site of the home of Thomas Kirkpatrick, the place of the first seat of government, and that he had found it to be described as No. 3, piece of ground at Cross street 5, on the west side of Main street. He also mentioned the importance of Fort Russell during the Indian uprising and said it should share in the Centennial thought. Representative William Dickman was called on and responded briefly.

Announced as an Edwardsville booster and an ever-ready booster, C. W. Terry addressed the meeting. He told of the objects of the Association and thought that Lusk cemetery as the resting place of the old soldiers would fittingly be the site of the monument.

Mayor H. P. Hotz was called on and spoke of the importance of the celebration and pledged his support. He gracefully acknowledged the compliments that had been paid the city.

Others who made talks during the evening were Dr. E. W. Fiegenbaum, Judge W. E. Hadley, L. D. Lawnin, John Stolze, H. M. Sanders, H. A. Dierkes, Dent E. Burroughs and J. F. Ammann.





Mayor Hotz moved that a vote of thanks be extended to Senator Beall for his efforts and co-operation in behalf of the Centennial and to Congressman Rodenberg for his work in behalf of the federal building and the cordial aid he was giving in arranging for the celebration, and the motion was carried with a will.

The plans contemplate an eight days' program which will include home comers' reception Saturday, church exercises Sunday, Governor's day Monday, Federal day Tuesday, automobile flower parade Wednesday, labor day Thursday, farmers' day Friday and premium day Saturday. Features will be a school children's parade, an historical parade and a labor parade. The Mystic Order of Goo Goos are planning to visit the city some night during the Centennial. This order on a former visit burned enough red fire to illuminate the country side for many miles around and made the welkin ring. A series of aeroplane flights will be scheduled and there will be street performances every day and every hour during the week. Not least important will be the exhibit of products from farm and factory showing the marvelous resources of the county.

Major William R. Prickett probably will be president of the formal ceremonies during the celebration.

Senator Beall, after the meeting showed that he was not merely indulging in oratory when he promised his support and he handed in a subscription of \$100. Circuit Judge W. E. Hadley was the first to qualify for membership after the charter was secured and he sent his check down several months ago from Three Lakes, Wisconsin, where he was spending his vacation.

After the meeting Congressman Rodenberg assured Mr. Boeschstein that he would endeavor to secure the presence of Vice President James S. Sherman and Speaker Champ Clark in Edwardsville during the Centennial.



## LINCOLN MEMORIAL STATUE IS UNVEILED IN STATE HOUSE AT FRANKFORT, KY.

The Lincoln Memorial Statue in the Kentucky State Capitol at Frankfort was unveiled November 8, 1911 by Miss Alice Speed, granddaughter of J. B. Speed, of Louisville, its donor. The dedication address was delivered by President Taft and the statue was accepted on behalf of the state by Gov. Augustus E. Wilson of Kentucky. The statue is a life size figure of Lincoln standing before the presidential chair.

The invocation by the Rev. W. H. Savage, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, of Louisville, was followed by a eulogy of the dead president's life and work by Henry Watterson, the Louisville editor.

The following is a brief extract from the address of the President:

### WILLIAM H. TAFT'S TRIBUTE TO LINCOLN.

"The south knows, as the north knows now, that there is no soul that unites them in perfect amity like that of Abraham Lincoln. The south knows, as the north knows, that every administration that removes another cause of misunderstanding between the sections or that brings them closer together in any way, is acting under the inspiration of him who could love his entire country with undiminished ardor when nearly one-half was seeking to destroy its integrity. Here, then, at a place that knew battle, that knew family dissension, that knew bloody conflict that represented in the sharpest and cruelest way a division of the sections; here, now that perfect peace and amity, and harmony prevail, let this memorial be dedicated as typical of the love which he, in whose memory it is reared, maintained for all Americans, with a kindly, fatherly patience that has no counterpart since Bethlehem."





## DEDICATION OF A MONUMENT TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN AT COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

Gen. Fred D. Grant, U. S. A., at the dedication of a monument to Abraham Lincoln and reunion of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee on October 10, 1911, at Council Bluffs, Ia., paid tribute to Lincoln and related interesting history of the first meeting between the great Emancipator and Gen. U. S. Grant.

"After the campaign of Chattanooga," said General Grant, following the recital of other historic incidents of the civil war, "President Lincoln and the northern people turned to General Grant as the leader of the northern armies; and a bill was introduced in Congress reviving for him the grade of lieutenant general, which grade had died with Washington (though Winfield Scott, the hero of the Mexican War, had held it by brevet.)

"President Lincoln sent to the Senate this nomination and ordered General Grant, by telegraph, to report in person at Washington. Upon his arrival there General Grant was summoned to the White House, where President and Mrs. Lincoln were holding a reception. President Lincoln received my father with great cordiality, pressing both his hands and saying: 'I am indeed most delighted to welcome you here, General.'

"I was with my father and shall never forget that first meeting of Lincoln and Grant. It was dramatic, for in the hands of these two men was the destiny of our country. Their work was in co-operation for the preservation of their nation and for the freedom of man.

"When opportunity presented itself after the reception, President Lincoln said: 'General Grant, I am to formally present you your commission tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, and knowing your dislike of speaking, I have written out what I have to say and will read it; it will only be four or five sentences. I would like you to say something in reply which will obviate any feeling of jealousy among officers and which will be encouraging to the whole nation.'



"Thus spoke the great and noble peacemaker to the general who so heartily coincided with him in sentiments and work for union and peace. They had never met before, though the President had written General Grant warm congratulations upon the successful campaign and siege of Vicksburg, and other letters and telegrams had passed between them, expressive of cordiality and confidence.

"After that great reception at the White House my father wrote in pencil the reply he was to make to the president the next day, in receiving his commission. When General Grant went to the White House the following morning, he permitted me to accompany him. Upon reaching there, he and his staff were immediately ushered into the President's office, where the President and his cabinet and two or three other distinguished men were assembled.

"After short and informal greetings, all standing, President Lincoln faced General Grant, and from a sheet of paper read as follows:

" 'General Grant: The nation's appreciation of what you have done and its reliance upon you for what remains to be done, in the existing great struggle, are now presented, with this commission constituting you Lieutenant General in the Army of the United States.

" 'With this high honor devolves upon you also a corresponding responsibility. As the country herein trusts you, so, under God, it will sustain you.

" 'I scarcely need to add that with what I here speak for the nation goes my own hearty personal concurrence.'

"General Grant, taking from his pocket a sheet of paper containing his reply of acceptance, which he had written the night before, read quietly and modestly to the President:

" 'Mr. President: I accept the commission with gratitude for the high honor conferred. With the aid of the noble armies that have fought in so many fields for our





common country, it will be my earnest endeavor not to disappoint your expectations.

“‘I feel the full weight of the responsibilities now devolving upon me, and I know that if they are met, it will be due to those armies, and, above all, to the favor of that Providence which leads both nations and men.’”

“The original manuscripts of the President’s speech and of my father’s reply accepting his commission, are now in my possession, treasures and heirlooms of my family.”

#### CHICAGO CHAPTER, D. A. R., PLACE TABLET TO MARK INDIAN TRAIL.

Commemorative of the early Indian trails and the old Green Bay wagon road, superseded in later years by the modern steel trail of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Chicago Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, have erected a tablet at the base of one of the trail trees which served as guide posts for the early settlers. The tablet is of bronze and bears the following inscription:

This Indian trail tree, at the northern boundary of Cook County, is the most noticeable one standing on a highway. There are eleven similarly bent trees in Cook County pointing the direction of the Indian trails. The branch was bent and fastened to the ground by the Indians when the tree was a sapling, over eighty years ago. This tree is near the Green Bay trail, later the wagon road of the early settlers of the 1830 period, followed as a further advance in civilization by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, 1855, and later by the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railroad, 1889. This tablet is erected by the Chicago Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution May 6, 1911, to encourage interest in local history and perpetuate the memory of the disappearing Indian race.

The tablet was secured through the efforts of a committee of which Miss Valentine Smith is chairman.



SANGAMON COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION  
PLACE MEMORIAL TABLET ON  
COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

Robert Pulliam, a name that has gone down in Sangamon County history as that of its first white settler, was honored Saturday afternoon, December 2, 1911, when members of the Sangamon County Old Settlers' Association held exercises in the circuit court room in connection with the unveiling of the bronze tablet in commemoration of the building of the first log cabin in Sangamon county.

The bronze tablet, placed on one of the south columns of the court house, was surrounded with a laurel wreath and, following the exercises held in the court room, the two flags which covered the tablet were drawn aside by little Harry and Virginia Pulliam, direct descendants of Robert Pulliam.

Judge Charles P. Kane made the principal address of the afternoon, reciting early historical events of the county.

He told of Robert Pulliam's brave attempt and success in entering the prairies of Sangamon County in 1817. The log cabin, the building of which the tablet is aimed to commemorate, was erected in Ball township by Robert Pulliam. It served as a shelter for two years for him and his hired men, who brought horses and cattle and started to cultivate the wilderness of this section of the country. It was not until 1819 that he moved his family to Ball township. Robert Pulliam had twelve children and a large number of their descendants reside in and near this county.

Judge Kane praised the stability and bravery of the man for his diligent work and persistence. He also recited a number of historical facts in connection with the growth of Sangamon County.





James C. Maxcy presented the tablet to the county on behalf of the Sangamon County Old Settlers' Society and it was accepted by Attorney W. A. Bradford for the Board of Supervisors.

Prayer was offered at the opening of the exercises by Rev. T. D. Logan, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

The committee in charge of the affair included: Dr. William Jayne, Samuel Carpenter, Henry Trumbo and George W. Yocum.

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#### MONUMENT TO ILLINOIS TROOPS AT KENESAW MOUNTAIN.

On November 3, 1911, Governor Denen named the following members of a commission to have charge of the erection of a monument on the battlefield of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga., in commemoration of the Illinois soldiers who lost their lives in that engagement: Capt. Lansing J. Dawdy, Peoria; William A. Payton, Danville, and Dr. J. B. Shawgo, Quincy. Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated by the last session of the legislature for the purpose of erecting the monument.

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#### STATUE OF ROBERT G. INGERSOLL DEDICATED AT PEORIA, OCTOBER 28, 1911.

A statue of Robert G. Ingersoll was unveiled at Glen Oak Park, Peoria, Illinois, October 28, 1911. Addresses were delivered by Charles Frederick Adams of New York City and Congressman John Lentz of Ohio. Tributes to the memory of Ingersoll were read from Thomas A. Edison, Andrew Carnegie, Ernest Haeckel, and Andrew D. White. The statue is a bronze figure showing Ingersoll in one of his characteristic attitudes. It was designed by Fritz Triebel, a Peoria sculptor, now working abroad.



## STATE OF ILLINOIS BUYS STARVED ROCK.

On Dec. 15, 1911, Starved Rock passed into the hands of the State of Illinois when negotiations were concluded between the Illinois Park Commission and Ferdinand Walther, who had owned the property for the last twenty-two years.

The papers signed and exchanged show that the State paid the sum of \$146,000 for the 290 acre tract, which it is expected will prove to be the nucleus of one of the finest State parks in the country.

The new State park preserve lies ten miles west of Ottawa on the south side of the Illinois river, and in addition to Starved Rock proper consists of precipitous cliffs, canons, and glens, which rival many of America's most beautiful scenic wonders.

No spot in Illinois is richer in history or legend than Starved Rock, which was visited by the early French missionary explorers and was the scene of numerous bloody conflicts between Indian tribes. Upon its lofty summit, according to the legend, the Illinois warriors made their last stand, and after being starved, were finally exterminated by their enemies.

Illinois has taken a step forward in the acquirement of this property and has fallen in line with the more progressive of her sister states, as well as with the federal government, who has set aside for the benefit of the public acres of land noted for beauty of scenery or historic interest.

Prof. J. A. James, of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, is the chairman of the State Park Commission, and he has labored unceasingly for the acquirement and preservation of this historic and beautiful park, both before the General Assembly in securing the appropriation for its purchase, and in the negotiations with the owners of the land, since the appropriation was available. Professor James, the other members of the commission and the people of the State are to be congratulated that





Starved Rock is at last the property of the State and safe for all time.

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### GENEALOGICAL BOOKS IN THE HISTORICAL LIBRARY.

A comprehensive list of the genealogical books in the Illinois State Historical Library will appear in the annual volume of the Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the year 1911. The Library has received many accessions to its genealogical collections since the list was published in the JOURNAL of January, 1909.

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### MEETING OF THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the American Historical Association and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was held at Buffalo, N. Y., December 27-29, 1911, and Ithaca, N. Y., December 30, 1911. The sessions were attended by the leading historians and archivists of the United States and Canada, and a most interesting program was presented.

A more extended notice of the meeting will be given in the next number of the JOURNAL.

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### GIFTS OF BOOKS.

Major Robert Anderson and Fort Sumpter, 1861. Gift of Mrs. J. M. Lawton (daughter of Major Anderson), of New York City, N. Y.

Address of Hon. James Speed Before the Society of the Loyal Legion at Cincinnati, May 4, 1887, in Response to the Toast "Abraham Lincoln." Gift of Hon. James Speed, 108 S. Fifth street, Louisville, Ky.

History of the 24th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment (Old Hecker Regiment). By Dr. William Wagner, Surgeon of the Regiment. Dedicated to the brave sol-



diers of the command by the Illinois Staats Zeitung, Chicago, Aug., 1864. Original German text, translated into English, July, 1911. Gift of E. W. Wagner, 99 Board of Trade, Chicago, Ill.

The Aborigines of Minnesota, 1906-1911. Gift of the Minnesota Historical Society. Reviewed at length in this number of the Journal by Dr. J. F. Snyder.

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### A SUGGESTION.

December 1, 1911.

(Communicated.)

*Editor of the Journal:*

I would like to ask the Directors of the Illinois State Historical Society why it would not be just as well to stop publishing the transactions of the Society in separate columns and print them in the JOURNAL. On the score of economy alone this would surely be advisable. Why must the State Historical Library publish the reports of the State Historical Society when the JOURNAL of the latter can publish them just as well? The bulk of the volumes of Transactions issued by the Library consists of historic papers, original and reprints, and the bulk of your JOURNAL is the same. Then why two publications for practically the same purpose? And, further, as it now is, we have to wait from one to two years for the Library to issue the reports of our annual meetings, when, if published in the JOURNAL they would reach us by the end of the quarter at farthest. Supposing the Society's reports and addresses and miscellaneous papers were more than one number of the JOURNAL could contain, they might be continued in the next number, and at that the delay would be nothing like it is now. I think every consideration demands that the Society should publish its own Transactions. Don't you?

A MEMBER.





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## NECROLOGY.



## DEATH OF ABNER PALMER WOODWORTH.

AN EARLY AND HONORED MEMBER OF THE ILLINOIS STATE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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In the death of Abner P. Woodworth, for years president of the First National Bank of Robinson, that city and Crawford county mourns the loss of an eminent and beloved citizen, one who has been a foremost and central figure in promoting the welfare of her people, and who on every occasion has been a leader in the progress of the county of his birth.

His death came peacefully and quietly early Sunday morning, November 12, 1911, at the old home on East Main street. Although his advanced age had rendered the condition of his health uncertain, no illness heralded the approach of death, and on the afternoon before, he was at his place of business, apparently in his usual health and spirits.

Abner Palmer Woodworth was born on the 20th day of June A. D., 1829, near the village of Palestine, Ill., and died in Robinson, Crawford county, Ill. on the 12th day of November, A. D. 1911.

His father, John S. Woodworth, was an early pioneer, having come to the county in 1814. He was the second sheriff of Crawford county. A strong man of high intelligence and always prominent and influential in the affairs of the church, the neighborhood and the county, his children were given all the education that the common and select schools of the period could give, and Abner P. was given two years at Hanover College.

After a year of experience as clerk in the store of John Lagow at Princeton, Ind., Abner P. Woodworth came to





Robinson and, in a one-story frame building on the corner now occupied by the Farmers' and Producers' Bank, began his career as a merchant, which proved to be eminently honorable and successful.

While yet engaged in selling goods the necessity of a banking business in Robinson became apparent and to meet this necessity Mr. Woodworth established the Robinson Bank. Under his wise and conservative management the business of the bank constantly increased. Partners were taken and it was recognized as one of the strongest private banks in the state. In 1896 the bank was re-organized as the First National Bank of Robinson, of which Mr. Woodworth continued to be president until his death.

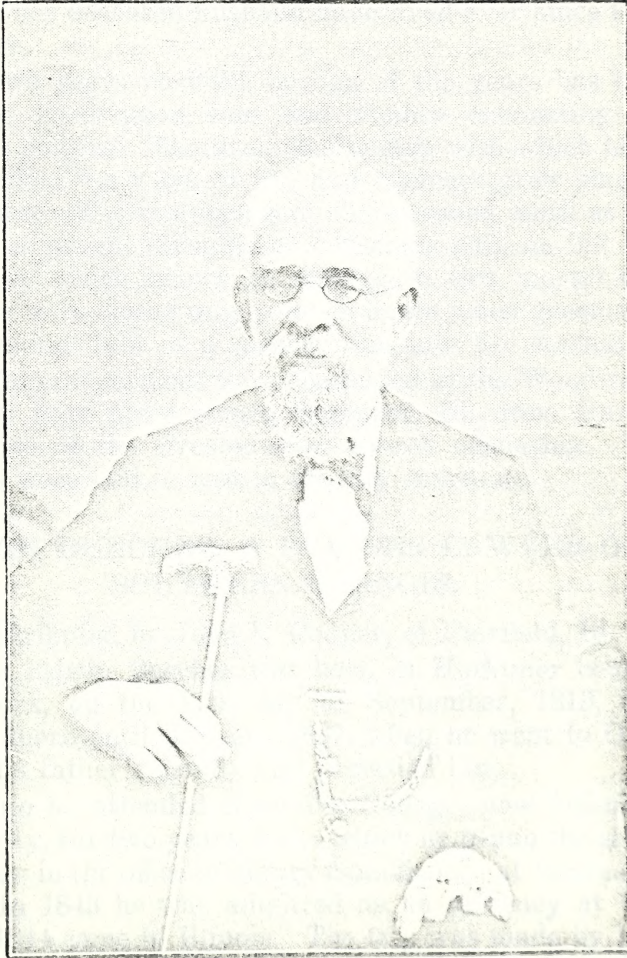
His interest in all matters relating to the improvement of Crawford county, and of Robinson, was intelligent and earnest. In 1875, to secure the construction of the railroad via Robinson, he put into it all the money and property he then possessed. The like spirit has governed his conduct in relation to all other public enterprises.

During his active life he was a good judge, and a great lover of horses, and an exceedingly neat and successful farmer.

He was a charter member of the Republican party, and conscientiously believed in the principles and policies upon which it was organized. He was an honored and consistent member of the Presbyterian church. His life exemplified the religion that he professed.

For half a century Abner P. Woodworth was a prominent leader in the business of Crawford county, and so blamelessly did he live and so honorably did he conduct his business affairs, and so faithfully did he discharge the duties and keep the obligations of his citizenship that no charge of unfaithfulness or wrongdoing ever has been or ever can be laid to his charge.





Judge Edwin Beecher.





August 18, 1868, he was married to Miss Ellen King of Binghampton, N. Y., who survives him and who has the sincere sympathy of the entire community in which she and her deceased husband have lived ever since their marriage.

For two years past the burden of the years has been pressing hard upon him and visibly exhausting his physical powers. The firm, elastic step with which he so long walked the ways of life and business grew shorter and slower. His vitality gradually lessened, until at last without apparent struggle or conscious pain he fell into that sleep which knows no waking in this mortal life. His eyes were closed only to open again when greeted by the breaking light of a resurrection into life eternal.

The funeral services were conducted at the Woodworth home on East Main street, Robinson, Ill., Rev. Harvey W. White of the Presbyterian church officiating. The remains were laid to rest in the city cemetery.

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### EDWIN BEECHER, A PIONEER LAWYER OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

Contributed by John L. Cooper, of Fairfield, Ill.

Judge Edwin Beecher was born in Herkimer county, New York, on the 11th day of September, 1819, and resided there until the year 1837, when he went to Ohio, where his father's family had preceded him.

In Ohio he attended Granville College, now Dennison University, for two years, after which he began the study of the law in the office of Henry Standberry, at Lancaster, Ohio. In 1843 he was admitted as an attorney at law, and in 1844 came to Illinois. The trip was made by boat from Cincinnati to St. Louis, and from there to Belleville, thence to Carlyle, thence to Salem and from there to Fairfield by various "stages," there being no other regular mode of conveyance at that time.



Judge Beecher arrived in Fairfield on the 24th day of April, 1844, and immediately entered into the practice of his profession, which continued until 1855, when he was elected as one of the judges of the Circuit Court in what was then the twelfth circuit. His commission as judge bore date June 25, 1855.

At the session of the General Assembly of 1861 provision was made for the re-publication of the first Illinois Supreme Court Report, before that time published by the late Hon. Sidney Breese, and in 1862 Judge Beecher published what is known as "Beecher's Breese."

In 1862 Judge Beecher was appointed a paymaster in the army, and continued in this work until 1869, when he resigned and engaged in business in Montgomery, Alabama. In 1877 he returned to Fairfield, where he resided during the remainder of his lifetime.

He was twice married, his first wife having been Miss Susan Wood, this wedding having occurred on December 12, 1844. His second wife was Mrs. Ophelia McCall. This wedding occurred December 22, 1887, and his widow survives him. He left no children, his only son having died on the 3d day of March, 1857.

Prior to his entry into the army Judge Beecher was interested in much of the important litigation in Southern Illinois, and was associated with many of the great characters of the early days of this State. He had a store of anecdotes about the bench and bar, and his greatest pleasure was to relate them. His sense of time and place was most remarkable, and he seldom told a story, or even a joke, about his friends of days ago, without giving the place where it occurred and the date thereof.

Judge Beecher will long be remembered by the bar of this part of Illinois, and especially by the younger members, to whom he was always ready and willing to give time and labor in order to assist them. He was regarded by those who knew him best as a walking encyclopedia of law, especially of case law; and often, when





called upon to give an opinion as to some proposition of law, he would cite the volume of the Supreme Court Reports and the very page where the point had been decided.

During the last few years he retired from his practice, his sight having failed, and lived a quiet and contented life, at peace with the world. While he often voiced his regret at not being able to see his friends, yet, he was never heard to complain, but continued, almost to the last, to have a pleasant word and story for those who called.

He died on the 16th day of April, 1910, and in his death much of the unwritten history of the early bench and bar of Southern Illinois became forever lost.

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#### DEATH OF WIDOW OF GOVERNOR JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON OF ILLINOIS.

Mrs. John Marshall Hamilton, widow of Former Governor John M. Hamilton, of Illinois, died on Sunday, Oct. 15, 1911, at the residence of her daughter, in Paris Hill, Maine.

The remains were brought to Chicago and the funeral services were held at 4:00 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 17, at the Oakwoods cemetery chapel, the Rev. John T. Hale officiating. Mrs. Hamilton was a resident of Kenwood until the death of her husband in 1905.

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#### DEATH OF MRS. R. E. GOODELL, DAUGHTER OF GOVERNOR MATTESON.

Mrs. R. E. Goodell, daughter of Joel A. Matteson, one of the former Governors of Illinois, died Thursday, Nov. 9, 1911, at her home in Colorado. Mrs. Goodell formerly resided in Springfield, Illinois, and was one of the most prominent women in the State.

The Matteson home was located on the corner of Fourth and Jackson streets. Mrs. Goodell, during her residence here, was hostess to many illustrious people.



On Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1911, her son-in-law, James B. Grant, died at his home in Excelsior Springs, Mo. He was formerly Governor of Colorado, and a well known political figure. Mrs. Goodell was kept in ignorance of his death for fear it would hasten her end. Both bodies were buried in Fairmount cemetery at Denver, Colorado.

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#### DEATH OF FERNANDO JONES, ONE OF CHICAGO'S OLDEST SETTLERS.

Fernando Jones, one of Chicago's oldest settlers, died Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1911, at the age of 91 years. Mr. Jones' life has made a part of the building of the city of Chicago and he had beheld the growth of the frontier village into a metropolitan city.





## Publications of the Illinois State Historical Library and Society.

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No. 1. \*A Bibliography of Newspapers Published in Illinois prior to 1860. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago; assisted by Mlio J. Loveless, graduate student in the University of Chicago. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 2. \*Information Relating to the Territorial Laws of Illinois, passed from 1809 to 1812. Prepared by Edmund J. James, Ph. D. 15 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1899.

No. 3. \*The Territorial Records of Illinois. Edited by Edmund J. James, Ph. D., professor in the University of Chicago. 170 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1901.

No. 4. \*Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the Year 1900. Edited by E. B. Greene, Ph. D., secretary of the society. 55 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

No. 5. \*Alphabetic Catalog of the Books, Manuscripts, Pictures and Curios of the Illinois State Historical Library. Authors, Titles and Subjects. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Library, by the Librarian, Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. 363 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1900.

Nos. 6-14 inc. Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society for the years 1901-1909 inclusive. 9 volumes. Numbers 6 to 11 inclusive are out of print.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 1. Edited by H. W. Beckwith, President Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library. 642 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1903.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 2. Virginia series, Vol. 1. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord. CLVI and 663 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1907.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 3. Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858. Lincoln Series, Vol. 1. Edited by Edwin Erle Sparks, Ph. D. 627 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1908.

\*Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 4. Executive Series, Vol. 1. The Governor's Letter-Books, 1818-1834. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Clarence Walworth Alvord. XXXII and 317 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. 5. Virginia Series, Vol. II. Kaskaskia Records, 1778-1790. Edited by Clarence Walworth Alvord. L and 681 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, Ill., 1909.

Illinois Historical Collections, Vol VI. Bibliographical Series, Vol. I. Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879. Revised and enlarged edition. Edited by Franklin William Scott. CIV and 610 pages, 8vo., Springfield, 1910.

Illinois Historical Collections. Vol VII. Executive Series, Vol. II. Governors' Letter-Books, 1840-1853. Edited by Evarts Boutell Greene and Charles Manfred Thompson. CXVIII and 469 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1911.



\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. I, No. 1, Sept., 1905. Illinois in the Eighteenth Century. By Clarence Walworth Alvord, University of Illinois. 38 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

\*Bulletin of the Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. I, No. 2, June 1, 1906. Laws of the Territory of Illinois, 1809-1811. Edited by Clarence W. Alvord, University of Illinois. 34 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1906.

\*Circular Illinois State Historical Library. Vol. 1, No. 1, Nov., 1905. An outline for the study of Illinois State history. Compiled under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, by Jessie Palmer Weber, Librarian of the Illinois State Historical Library and Secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society, assisted by Georgia L. Osborne, assistant Librarian. 94 pages, 8 vo., Springfield, 1905.

Journals of the Illinois State Historical Society, Quarterly, Vol. I, No. 1, April, 1908, to Vol. IV, Jan., 1912.

Journals Out of Print.

\*Vol. I, out of print. Vol. II, Nos. 3 and 4, out of print. Vol. III, out of print. Vol. IV, Nos. 1, 2, 3, out of print.

\*Out of print.





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